

Hafa Adai!

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Imperial Pacific sole bid for Kan Pacific RFP

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Saipan casino, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, moves a step closer to securing a lease for coveted public lands in Marpi inclusive of the Mariana Resort and Spa, after the Department of Public Lands issued a notice of intent to award the casino with a lease last Friday.

» **DPL issues 'intent to award' casino company**

Imperial Pacific is the Hong Kong-based mother company of Best Sunshine International, Ltd. It runs the temporary casino, Best Sunshine Live, at the T Galleria.

If awarded to the casino, DPL would complete a competitive bid process that began when a request for proposal, or RFP, was opened last October for a bid on lots used for racecar tracks, mini golf courses, and the Marpi hotel itself, its cottages,

See IMPERIAL on Page 4

Demapan to Torres: Show me the casino money

» **House speaker wants Torres to make official reported figures on casino taxes**

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

House Speaker Ralph Demapan (R-Saipan) has asked Gov. Ralph DLG Torres to make official or "identify" the reported \$47 million

in gross revenue tax paid out by the Saipan casino for this fiscal year, so that these funds can be divvied up in appropriations by the Legislature, according to a July 14, 2016, letter Demapan sent to Torres.

See DEMAPAN on Page 4

Police: Obvious signs Chinese farmer was lifeless for some time when found

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

There were obvious signs that the body of a Chinese farmer had been lifeless for some time before he was found outside his house in As Lito on Saturday early morning, according to police yesterday.

Department of Public Safety acting spokesman Jason Tarkong also identified the victim as 59-year-old Li Qian Ding, who was transported to the Commonwealth Health Center's morgue.

Tarkong said a witness found Ding lying face down outside his house and called 911.

Tarkong said police responded to the scene on Saturday at 6am.

» **Neighbor says wife doesn't want to be bothered, tries to chase out cops**

See POLICE on Page 4

Li Qian Ding and his wife's house and farm in As Lito. Ding's wife found the body of the 59-year-old farmer under a mango tree outside the house on Saturday early morning. Police classified the case as a homicide. Investigation is ongoing.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE



INSIDE

LOCAL

Cindy Bernal and Joey Parana are both hopeful their 8-year-old daughter Chloe would outgrow her medical condition.

PAGE 7



NATION

A former Marine dressed in black and carrying extra ammunition shot and killed three Baton Rouge law enforcement officers Sunday.

PAGE 15



OVERDRIVE

When I hear the name Mitsubishi, I think of in-wall air conditioners. I also think about the Zero airplanes that kamikaze pilots used to deadly effect against the U.S. and its allies during World War II.

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TAGA SPORTS JULY - SEPTEMBER 2016 EDITION

Local

Interpreters avoiding Superior Court due to unpaid or delayed payments

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Most interpreters are avoiding doing translation services to the Superior Court due to unpaid or delayed payments by the CNMI government.

In contrast, interpreters like to offer services at the U.S. District Court for the NMI because the payment rate is reasonable and they also immedi-

ately get paid after submitting their billings.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday brought up the problem on lack of interpreters after the prosecution and the defense counsel informed the court that they had exhausted their list of over 15 Chinese translators trying to obtain an interpreter and without any success.

Camacho said interpreters had expressed their frustrations accepting translating work for the Superior Court due to unpaid or delayed payments.

Camacho was supposed to preside over a bench trial in the criminal case against Gui Fang Lai yesterday at 8am, but due to lack of an interpreter the judge continued the trial yesterday at 1:30pm to allow

the parties more time to locate a Chinese translator.

Assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub appeared for the government. Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer is counsel for Lai.

An interpreter, who requested anonymity, said it's true that interpreters are trying to avoid servicing the Superior Court because it would take the government sometimes a

year or two years to pay them.

The interpreter said what really disappoints them is when the government makes a "cut" on the payment rate.

He explained that the rate is \$15 per hour, but when they serve less than an hour sometimes they just get paid \$3.75 for the time they only actually perform interpretation.

"When we come to the court on time, sometimes the hearings are delayed for two hours and we are not getting paid for that two hours," the

interpreter said. "You come to court and sometimes get only \$3.75. That's very humiliating."

On payment, the interpreter said they get paid only after the case is over and sometimes it takes two years.

As compared to District Court, the interpreter said they don't have problem as the rate there is \$111 even if it's less than an hour.

He said the federal court also pays within a month after the billings are submitted.

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER

REACH: Everyone is entitled to clean air

The CNMI Division of Public Health's Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health is reaching out to bars, hotels, and poker room—either owners or managers—to follow Public Law 16-46 or the Smoke-Free Air Act of 2008. The law does not ban smoking and only prohibits it in certain places.

REACH local project assistant Jessica Lorfing said that everyone has the right to breathe clean air. "That's why we're trying to educate the community and the responsibilities of the business sector in following the law."

Lorfing held an educational

training to further discuss PL 16-46 and PL 19-32, which prohibits the use of electronic cigarettes in areas where smoking is not allowed and at the same time to regulate its use, last Friday at the Latter Stone Room of the Kanoa Resort.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and DPH is in charge of the information dissemination campaign and enforcement of the Smoke-Free Air Act—which prohibits smoking, including e-cigarettes, in government buildings and other public places—restaurants, office buildings, and schools.

"People tend to smoke in

places that's why DPH provides resources to inform the public of areas where they can smoke and where they could not smoke," Lorfing told *Saipan Tribune* after the three-hour seminar.

"Second hand smoke is bad and people have the right for clean air. We must be aware of how important it is to breathe clean air."

She added smoking in bars, whether open air or closed, can only be allowed after 10pm. "Bar owners must make sure second-hand smoke should not spread in non-smoking areas. Smoking is prohibited also in hotel lobbies and there must be an administrative

code.

"That's why they are working harder to educate and inform the community about PL 16-46. We must educate everyone first and after that comes strict enforcement," said Lorfing.

The law exempts certain establishments like private residences, designated hotel and motel rooms, private residences—except when used as a licensed child, adult, or health care facility—private and semi-private rooms in nursing homes and long-term care facilities with some restrictions, enclosed gaming areas of casino, and fully enclosed and

See REACH on Page 4

Residents to visit Fena Cave on US Naval Base Guam

SANTA RITA, Guam—As part of Liberation Day events, a site visit will be held at the Fena Cave located at the Naval Munitions Annex on U.S. Naval Base Guam today, July 19.

The visit, coordinated between Naval Base Guam and the Agat Mayor's Office, will precede a memorial held for Fena Cave Massacre victims at Old Agat Cemetery. Attendees are asked to meet at 8:30am at the cemetery where they will board a bus and proceed to the cave site.

After the cave visit, a memorial will be held at 10am at the cemetery.

On July 19, 1944 the Fena Cave Massacre occurred, when Japanese soldiers killed more than 30 young men and women from Agat and Sumay with grenades and bayonets in the caves near Fena Lake. During the past several years, the NBB commanding officer has invited the victims' families to visit the cave as part of Liberation Day ceremonies. (PR)

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Judge orders China corporation to show cause why suit shouldn't be dismissed

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona yesterday ordered a China-based corporation to show cause why its lawsuit against its alleged employee should not be dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction.

Manglona ordered attorney Samuel Mok, counsel for Jilin International Economic and Technical Group, to appear before the court on Thursday, July 21, at 9am, for the show cause hearing.

Manglona gave Jilin International no later than today, Tuesday, to respond to this order.

The judge noted that because Jilin International and defendant Wanzhong Yu are both aliens, they do not appear to be diverse for federal jurisdictional purposes.

Manglona said Jilin International seeks a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction against Yu preventing him from using funds belonging to Universal Group Development Inc. (Saipan), which Jilin International claims to own.

Mok asserts that the federal court has subject matter jurisdiction over this lawsuit pursuant to a statute, which governs diversity jurisdiction.

However, Manglona noted, Jilin International is a Chinese corporation and Yu is a "foreign alien resident of the CNMI."

"Because it appears that the parties are not diverse, the court will order JIC (Jilin) to show cause why this case should not be dismissed for lack of federal jurisdiction," Manglona said.

Jilin International, through Mok, claims that Yu, who alleged that he was detained in China for 22 months caused by political influence exerted by his former business partners on Saipan, was only its employee and was indeed indicted in China for embezzling \$6.2 million in corporate profits earned from his management of a company on Saipan.

Jilin International is suing Yu for declaratory and injunctive relief, embezzlement, conversion and constructive trust, and breach of

fiduciary duty.

Jilin International asked the federal court to issue a declaration that Yu is not a legitimate shareholder, director or officer of Universal Group Development.

Mok requested the court to declare that Jilin International is the true owner and corporate parent of Universal Group Development.

Mok asked the court, among other things, to preliminarily and permanently enjoined Yu from taking any actions as the purported holder, director or officer of Universal Group, including accessing \$225,000 currently deposited into the federal court's trust account representing the contents of a business savings held by Universal Group.

Last March, Manglona issued a default judgment in favor of Yu and against businessmen Mingnan Jin and Jinwei Guo in connection with a separate but related lawsuit. Yu was awarded \$125,699.60 in damages.

Another \$1000 instant lottery Winner!



Pictured is NMSA Lottery Manager, Anicia Malek and the lucky winners Husband during the presentation.

Last week another lucky player walked away with \$1000 in cash playing the NMSA instant lottery game Tropical Treasure while shopping at Kevin's Store in Chalan Kanoa. The lucky player bought three Tropical Treasure games and hit the jackpot on the very first ticket. That's the second week in a row a lucky player has won \$1000 cash at Kevin's Store! The lucky player who does not want to be identified said she will use her instant cash prize to get all the 'back to school' shopping completed. You could be the next lucky winner! The games are fun, fast and exciting and you could win up to \$5000 instantly. Get your tickets now and Good Luck!

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SSHS orientation on Aug. 9 and 10

Saipan Southern High School's orientation dates for new and returning students will be on Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2016, 1:30 pm or Wednesday, Aug. 10, 1:30pm. (PR)

UOG names Khosrowpanah interim dean of School of Engineering

The University of Guam has named Dr. Shahram Khosrowpanah as interim dean of the School of Engineering. Most recently, he served as the director of the UOG Water and Environmental Research Institute (WERI) for 12 years.

Khosrowpanah, who joined

the University in 1985, is a professional civil engineer and founded the Pre-Engineering program 27 years ago. Today, over 100 students are currently enrolled in the program.

In his new role, Khosrowpanah will be working towards hiring engineering

faculty and developing the curriculum for a full four-year Civil and Environmental Engineering degree program.

"I'm very happy to see that UOG is moving towards creating a four-year engineering degree program which is one of the high priority areas for our

region," Khosrowpanah said.

Currently, UOG has agreements with other higher education institutions such as the University of Iowa and Mapúa Institute of Technology in the Philippines where Pre-Engineering students can complete their undergraduate studies.

School of Engineering Annex

Construction on the highly anticipated School of Engineering Annex will begin soon. The annex will be located adjacent to the existing Agriculture and Life Sciences building. The two-story, 16,491-square-foot structure will include three classrooms, four science labs, one computer lab, faculty of-

REACH

From Page 2

at the departure terminal of all Commonwealth airports.

"The Best Sunshine casino is exempted because they have a casino license. But they still need to comply with the law, where they must have an enclosed area for smokers and it must not spread to non-smoking areas," said Lorfing.

People can report violators or violations by commercial establishments at 323-QUIT (7848) from 7:30am to 4:30pm every Mondays to Fridays or report it online at chcc.gov.mp. All reports will be confidential.

fices, a conference room, administration areas and a student project room.

"The School of Engineering is a game changer for the island," said Dr. Robert Underwood, UOG President. "It will

not only help meet the increasing demand for local engineering expertise, but it will help keep some of our brightest and highest-performing students here on Guam and contributing to our island's growth." (PR)

POLICE

From Page 1

He said police and Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services emergency medical technicians arrived at the couple's farm and discovered Ding no pulse and not breathing.

"Based on preliminary findings this case is classified as a homicide. The investigation is ongoing," Tarkong said.

A source said it was the wife, a Carolinian, who found Ding's body on the ground.

A neighbor told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the wife does not want to be bothered and even chased out police officers who went back to the scene on Sunday to conduct further investigation.

The neighbor said Ding, also known as Papasang,

would usually start working at their farm surrounding the house using a headlight as early as 2am.

The neighbor said dogs were really barking very loud that early morning.

Apparently, the neighbor said, the wife was waiting for Ding to drink his tea and when he failed to show up, she looked outside the house.

The neighbor said the wife found Ding on the ground under a mango tree located a few steps from their house.

The neighbor said she heard that Ding was possibly strangled and his body was dragged toward the mango tree area.

A source said blunt objects were found next to Ding's body.

The neighbor said it's only the couple staying in the house for 10 years now as they have no children together.

DEMAPAN

From Page 1

Citing Saipan casino law provisions, Demapan said the gross revenue tax generated from the casino shall be appropriated for specific purposes, listing LEAC Rate subsidy, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the Medical Referral Program, the payment of land compensation judgments, and the Public School System, as agencies that could receive these funds per law.

Demapan said the Commonwealth Casino Commission has advised the Legislature that the casino license holder, or Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, has paid a gross revenue tax in the amount of \$23,274,450 for the first months of fiscal year 2016.

An additional \$24 million, he said, can reasonably be anticipated for the remaining seven months of the fiscal year.

He notes, though, that these revenues were neither identified nor appropriated by Public Law 19-08, or the 2016 budget law.

"In order for the Legislature to appropriate these funds for any of the specified purposes, the Constitution and the Planning and Budgeting Act require that you identify these funds as available for appropriation," Demapan wrote. "I respectfully request that you identify \$47,275,450 of the gross revenue tax generated from

the casino licensee as being available for appropriation" pursuant to the casino law.

"The administration is in the process of putting the figures of the current and projected revenue from the casino's BGRT," said the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres in a statement to *Saipan Tribune*, when sought for comment yesterday.

"This week, we will remit the figure and provide an amount for the Legislature to appropriate," it added.

Some lawmakers, though, say these funds don't need to be identified as the casino tax funds are already earmarked to the provided agencies and that all what's needed are the "numbers" of dollar figures allotted to each agency.

"Apparently, it shows that the speaker is not reading his bills," Rep. Ramon Tebuteb (Ind-MP) said, noting that the speaker references Public Law 18-56, the Saipan casino law, which he authored. "The casino law BGRT is already earmarked. Land compensation, PSS, LEAC, so forth... The speaker is saying identify this BGRT, because the BGRT goes there."

"...That's already earmarked in [Public Law] 18-56. [PL] 18-56 is simply saying that BGRT is coming from the casino is already fixed, earmarked into these five areas. I don't know what he's trying to say to identify what's already earmarked. That's why I'm saying obviously he is not reading his bills," Tebuteb said.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Newly installed University of Guam School of Engineering interim dean Dr. Shahram Khosrowpanah.



An artist's rendition of the University of Guam Engineering Annex.

IMPERIAL

From Page 1

villas, and maintenance and sports facilities, and other vacant lands held by Kan Pacific Saipan, the Japanese company that owns the resort.

Saipan Tribune learned Friday that the July 15 letter came with some conditions that DPL listed. However, when asked, DPL would not release the letter citing an ongoing "negotiating" process.

"We issued an Intent to Award," DPL secretary Marianne Teregeyo told *Saipan Tribune* in an email, "they were the only company that submitted a proposal, despite DPL's efforts (before I came in [into office in February]) to send the RFP package to developers off-island. However, I am uncomfortable to release the letter as there are items that we will need to negotiate with. A meeting will be set with Imperial Pacific sometime in the next two weeks."

Sources said that among other conditions listed in the letter, DPL included items like authorization for DPL to obtain bank or financial information from the casino to vet project financing and a time-

table for the project, among others.

The RFP last year was released to controversy amid claims from Kan Pacific that DPL had breached its contract with the resort owner for deciding to pursue an RFP. However, the casino and the Japanese hotel owner reported a deal had been brokered to transition ownership of the lease the following December—and after settlement was reached in May after DPL contested the Kan Pacific and casino deal—controversy seems to have cooled and paved the way for a smooth bid process free of litigation, and the eventual and expected, by many, awarding of public lands to Best Sunshine International, Ltd.

"It has been a long and tough journey over the last three years," Marianas Resort general manager Gloria Cavangh told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday. "It was a very difficult decision for Kan Pacific Saipan, Ltd. to give up the fight. At the time it was 37 1/2 years of doing business on Saipan. Although we are saddened that we will not continue for another 38 years, we wish the best of

luck and much success to IPI with their business proposal. We have to keep in mind that their success is the CNMI's success. IPI has expressed their willingness to absorb our valued employees. I hope for a smooth transition of that. There are very good people who have worked for us for many years with KPS. We are hopeful that this would benefit the whole of the CNMI."

"KPS is not leaving the CNMI but will branch out to other businesses within Saipan," she added. "Saipan is the home of the Kitami family."

Requests for comment from casino executives forwarded through a casino lawyer has not been responded to as of press time yesterday.

In revealing their desire for the Kan Pacific lands last year, casino executives touted plans to build world's largest water park, 20 hotels, and a one-kilometer long shopping strip in the area.

House minority leader Rep. Ramon Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), for his part, wants to know the full extent of the casino company's desire to lease public lands in Marpi, as well as the size of the additional public

land joined in on the Kan Pacific lease, noting that the old lease for Kan Pacific went through legislative process for its approval.

"Is it 4.99 hectares?" he said. If it was five or more hectares, he said, "it would require legislative approval."

He wants to know the extent of lands "in addition" to the lands under the old lease, if any, included in the bid, adding that he understands that the casino has "big" plans stretching down south of the property to Pau Pau Beach.

Tebuteb noted that a former governor divided public lots in the area into "4.99" hectares to avoid legislative purview and added he would be curious to know of the additional land the casino wants to acquire.

"I am curious to know whatever the final disposition is on their awards," he said.

"But what I understood when we were looking at this—and when [casino CEO] Mark Brown was presenting in a secret meeting with the leadership—they showed a map that included all the way down" south to Pau Pau beach, he told *Saipan Tribune*.

According to the RFP last year, the total property for bid amounts to 1.61 million

ON LAWSUIT OVER SURGICAL TOOL LEFT IN PATIENT'S ABDOMEN: OAG finds patient at fault for not seeking medical help after 14 years of symptoms

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Questioning why she did not seek medical help despite experiencing symptoms for 14 years, the Office of the Attorney General moves the Superior Court to dismiss the lawsuit of Remedio Elameto, a woman who claimed that a surgical team allegedly left a 15-centimeter long surgical clamp in her abdomen during surgery to address her irregular periods and ovarian cysts at the Commonwealth Health Center on Saipan in August 2000.

Assistant attorney general David Lochabay, counsel for the CNMI government, pointed out that based on the allegations in the complaint, Elameto had surgery in 2000, then suffered terribly for 14 years without seeking readily available medical assistance.

"Any reasonable person would have known, or should have known, that they needed to seek medical assistance," Lochabay said.

At that point of time, Lochabay said, the statute of limitations on these claims began to run.

He said this was far in advance of Elameto's second operation in 2014.

Thus, the government lawyer pointed out, the malpractice claim of Elameto is barred by the statute of limitations, as are the claims that are derivative of her claim.

Elameto disclosed that it was in June 2014 or almost 14 years later when the surgical clamp was discovered and

removed at Guam Memorial Hospital.

Following the CHC surgery, Elameto claimed to have experienced irregular periods, pain, fatigue, sleep disruption, interference with her activities of daily living, and reduced interest and ability to enjoy activities she had previously engaged in.

Elameto and her common-law husband, Pedro Pua, are suing the CNMI government and two former CHC doctors Rajee Iyer and Gary Ramsey for medical malpractice, bad faith, and emotional distress and loss of consortium.

Elameto and Pua, through counsel Claire Kelleher-Smith, asked the Superior Court to hold the defendants liable to pay them damages, court costs, and attorney's fees. They demanded a jury trial.

The plaintiffs also requested the court to issue a declaration that the liability limitations of the Government Liability Act are unconstitutional because such limits deny tort victims such as them, equal protection of the laws.

In the government's motion to dismiss, Lochabay said according to the Commonwealth statute of limitations for medical malpractice, the following actions shall be commenced only within two years after the cause of action accrues—"actions for malpractice, error, or mistake against physicians, surgeons, dentists, medical or dental practitioners, and medical or dental assistants."

Lochabay said one of the exceptions is for cases in

which an allegedly injured plaintiff is unaware that he/she has been injured until after the limitation period has expired.

"In such cases the limitation period is regarded as tolled until an allegedly injured party knew or should have known, in the exercise of reasonable diligence, that they had been injured," Lochabay explained.

Lochabay said it is readily apparent that any person experiencing these symptoms for 14 years knew or should have known they had a problem requiring medical consultation

and evaluation.

He said medical consultation and evaluation for Elameto during those 14 years was readily available on Saipan and the court may take judicial notice of that fact.

Lochabay asserted that any competent physician consulted by Elameto to address symptoms of abdominal distress over those 14 years would undoubtedly have taken a proper physical and history and been apprised of her previous operation.

Surely, he said, a claim of ab-

dominal distress in the area of a previous operation would have resulted in at least an X-ray, on which the forceps would have been clearly visible.

Lochabay said the complaint establishes that Elameto did not consult with any physician(s) at any time other than those who performed the operation removing the forceps in June 2014 or 14 years after the surgery.

Lochabay said for Elameto to have endured symptoms for 14 years without seeking readily available medical help is

not reasonable diligence.

"Therefore, the statute is not tolled and the claim is barred by limitations," he said.

On co-plaintiff Pedro Pua's claim for emotional distress and loss of consortium, Lochabay said as Elameto's claims are barred by limitations, this loss of consortium claim is also barred.

Lochabay said that in the Commonwealth, a legal marriage is a prerequisite to a claim of loss of consortium, as the Commonwealth does not recognize common-law marriage.

Man guilty over beating of wife at restaurant

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho yesterday found Gui Fang Lai guilty for beating up his wife for not giving him money at a restaurant in Susupe.

At a bench trial, Camacho found the testimonies of the victim and the government's four other witnesses as credible.

The judge said the government presented proof beyond a reasonable doubt as to the charge of assault and battery.

Camacho said all the government's witnesses' testimonies established all the elements of assault and battery.

Assault and battery carries a maximum sentence of one-year imprisonment.

Sentencing of the 42-year-old Lai will be on Nov. 16, 2016 at 9am.

Assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub prosecuted the case. AAG Jonathan Robert Glass Jr. assisted her at the trial.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer served as counsel for Lai. Office of the Public Defender's legal intern

Janina Maratita also appeared.

Weintraub called to the stand the victim and four other witnesses—Lai's sister-in-law and brother-in-law and police officers Norris Kwon and Chris Deleon Guerrero.

Weintraub submitted in court five exhibits containing photos of the victim and her injuries, as well as a photo of the crime scene at Good Day Restaurant.

Lai was accused of beating up his wife for not giving him money, chasing her with an axe, and breaking items at Good Day Restaurant in Susupe on March 20, 2016.

Last month, the Office of the Attorney General dismissed the most serious of the charges—assault with a dangerous weapon—the samurai sword and butcher knife.

Prior to the start of the trial, OAG orally moved to dismiss with prejudice the disturbing the peace and criminal mischief charges. Meyer did not object.

Camacho granted the motion. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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Real work now begins for Peachy, Palanga

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

It's not all fame and glamour for 2016 Miss Marianas Peachy Quitugua and 2016 Miss Marianas Teen Palanga Taimanao as they will have a full year of working to be the ambassadors of the CNMI in various events here and internationally.

Quitugua and Taimanao, who were both crowned last Saturday night each replacing Jian Joyner and Gianna Camacho, said in unison that they would represent the CNMI to the best of their abilities.

"I can now breathe but it is not yet over. It is just only the beginning," said Quitugua amidst the frenzied atmosphere that surrounded the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. "It was an amazing experience for us all."

She thanked all the candidates for the journey they made together and the chance to get to know them personally the past three months. "To my pageant sisters, I'll cherish the mo-



Miss Marianas Teen Palanga Taimanao, left photo, and Miss Marianas Peachy Quitugua wave to the crowd after winning this year's titles in last Saturday's coronation night at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

ments we had spent together and getting to know each and everyone of them is a memorable experience."

"Spend time with them the whole pageant is another thing that I will always cherish. We're so unique in every way, we all become sisters. It was not a competition, because we helped each other out, it was more of a bonding moment between sisters," she added.

Quitugua said she wants to inspire the youth, especially girls, to bring out the best in them. "I want the younger generation to be the best they can be and the younger girls, if ever they want to join a pageant, I want them to go for it since it's such a great experience learning about yourself."

"I also wanted to increase awareness on non-communicable diseases like diabetes



JON PEREZ

and hypertension. Health is the best investment that we can take for the rest of our lives," added the 21-year-old who wants to become a licensed neonatal nurse.

The Northern Marianas College graduate, who finished magna cum laude with an Associate of Science degree in nursing, also thanked the tremendous support from her family and friends. "They have always been there and it

showed. I'm so amazed and thankful for everyone."

Quitugua also wished Teen Queen Taimanao saying that she'll be with her every step of the way. Taimanao, who was the second from Rota to become a titleholder, said that she too would be at Quitugua's side throughout their respective reigns.

Taimanao said she was really reluctant at first to join the pageant but winning now means a lot to her. "I'm finally going to bring something home, something really big and something that the people of Rota will be truly proud of after waiting for how many years."

"I came from the beautiful island of Rota and I have really have no idea what to expect when I joined. I don't know how pageants work but we all worked our way through the whole experi-

ence."

She is the first Miss Marianas Teen from the CNMI's southernmost island and second overall winner of the Stellar Marianas-organized event after 2001 Miss CNMI International Rowena Ogo.

Taimanao said she wanted to focus on helping the CNMI youth to voice out their concerns and at the same time promote the beautiful and scenic spots in the Commonwealth to the world.

She said that she's thankful for all the support given by her family and friends. "Everybody got together and motivated me every step of the way. Even when I'm about to give up they keep on telling me, 'Pana you got this.' So I believed in myself and made it."

Stellar Marianas president Laila Younis-Boyer said that Quitugua would either compete in the Miss Universe or Miss World. "We are still working for either one. We will know for sure next month."

Taimanao, on the other hand, will have an all-expenses paid trip to compete in the Miss Teen International. She will also get the chance to create and implement a community project under her name with the help of Stellar Marianas.

Divana Manglona Dela Cruz, Robert C. Harrell, Kimberly Reyes Manglona, Iliana Pacheco, Milan Rabold, and Shirley T. Sablan are the pageant's judges with Burger Comer Magliari as the official tabulator.

CNMI SBDC offers free business seminar this month

The Department of Commerce's CNMI Small Business Development Center (SBDC) through the Small Business Administration, offers a free business seminar "Funding Your Business through a SBA Loan" from 9am to 10am tomorrow, July 20, 2at the Northern Marianas College (Room D1).

Ken Lujan, Guam SBA branch manager, will present on starting up or expanding your business to recovering from disasters, SBA loan programs are available to help your business succeed. You can explore various types of loans that may be available at the upcoming seminar. This seminar is brought to you by the CNMI SBDC and the Northern Marianas College with the support of the Commonwealth Development Authority, CNMI Department of Commerce, and the Let's MOVE! Marianas Alliance.

Deadline to pre-register is one business day before seminar at 12pm. Seating is limited so advanced registration is required (this is on a first come, first serve basis). Walk-ins are allowed and granted on space availability.

The CNMI Small Business Development Center is a member of the Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center Network (PISBDCN). Its mission is to support the growth and economic development of the U.S. affiliated islands in the western pacific by providing free one-to-one, confidential business counseling and high quality training to existing and prospective small businesses.

For more information about registering for these seminars, please contact Orrin Pharmin at orrin@pacificsbdc.com or the CNMI SBDC Office in Department of Commerce at (670) 664-3018/3000. (PR)

Tokyo will be Jian Joyner's next stop

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Jian Joyner's reign as Miss Marianas ended Saturday night but she would continue with her own journey with her next step getting a college degree. The former CNMI beauty queen represented the Commonwealth in the 55th Miss International in Tokyo, Japan last year.

She will be returning to Tokyo this fall where she will be taking up a degree in psychology at Temple University's Japan campus in Minami-Azabu district in Minato City. It is Temple's second international campus after Rome.

"Temple is an American university based in Japan and I'm moving there this fall to study psychology," said Joyner after transferring the Miss Marianas crown to Peachy Quitugua last Saturday held at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

She said that she would always cherish all the things she experienced being the CNMI's ambassador of goodwill. "It was so amazing, I'm glad that I had the opportunity to go through all of it and Stellar Marianas was there to help and to provide for me."

"It challenged me to get

out of my comfort zones. There may be sometimes that I made some mistakes but overall I became more confident. I know now that through hard work and strong determination will get me far," added Joyner.

Palanga Taimanao, a 16-year-old incoming senior at the Dr. Rita H. Inos Junior Senior High School in Rota, was also crowned last Saturday as the 2016 Miss Marianas Teen.

Joyner said Quitugua and Taimanao should also savor each moment of their one-year reign. "It is going to go by so quickly. But they can use whatever they learn from Stellar Marianas throughout the rest of their lives."

"I'm so excited for the two new Queens. They are going to have so much fun in representing the CNMI in various activities and functions. I've been to a lot of places representing our beautiful islands," added Joyner.

"Just have fun with it and to always remember to be themselves because sometimes they will get pressure with the title and with everyone watching your every move. My advice, just be yourself. It takes courage and confidence to be a beauty queen."

In her farewell walk, she also thanked her family—parents John and Yasuko



JON PEREZ

Jian Joyner wipes her tears as she makes her final walk as Miss Marianas in last Saturday's coronation night of the 2016 Miss Marianas Teen and Miss Marianas at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Joyner and younger brother Jehn—for all the love and support they gave her the entire year of her reign. "Daddy, I wouldn't have such good posture if you hadn't continuously reminded me

to sit up straight."

"Mama, I wouldn't be so poised if you hadn't taught me our Japanese culture. Jehn, thank you for not only being my brother but my best friend too. I love you all."

Chloe a fighter, says Mommy Cindy



JON PEREZ

Chloe Bernal, front left, joins her parents and brothers for a group photo after receiving her gifts from Docomo Pacific officials and personnel with the help of Make-A-Wish Foundation executive director Victor P. Camacho, right, last Friday.

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Cindy Bernal and Joey Parana are both hopeful their 8-year-old daughter Chloe would outgrow her medical condition. The incoming third grader at Eucon International School is suffering from pulmonary atresia with intact ventricular septum or PAIVS.

Chloe is the latest recipient of Make-A-Wish Foundation, which granted her wish of a shopping spree. Their family, including Chloe's younger brothers Josh and Yeoj, also spent the weekend at the Pacific Islands Club.

"She's shy and she takes time to warm up to other

people but she's a happy kid. She's a fighter and we're hoping that she would outgrow her medical condition," Bernal told *Saipan Tribune* while they enjoyed a lunch buffet at the Giovanni's restaurant at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

PAIV, according to WebMD Health Professional Network's Medscape, is a "rare congenital cardiac lesion characterized by heterogeneous right ventricular development, an imperforate pulmonary valve, and possible extensive ventriculocoronary connections."

"Our hearts have four chambers but for Chloe one of her chambers is not fully grown and that causes problems on

the flow of blood. A tube is connected from her heart to her lungs. She already had three major open heart surgeries in Japan," said Bernal.

She added that everything was normal when she was pregnant with her. "I gave birth to her through cesarean section but everything was normal when I was pregnant. All my regular check ups had no problems."

"It was only after giving birth that she was diagnosed with a heart murmur. After one week, we're off to Japan where she was operated when she was a month old. Her next operation was when she turned a year old and the last almost two years ago,"

Bernal said.

"She's using a pacemaker and next year we're going to San Diego for replacement, which would last for almost 10 years. There's also a pacemaker technician that comes here to Saipan once a year that's why she gets checked," added Bernal, who had a brother who died when he was a year old.

She said that her brother

was a blue baby, a condition where one's skin turns blue from lack of oxygen in the blood due to a defect on major blood vessels of the heart.

"But we see progress on her condition. It's slow, but at least there's progress. She can easily get tired and she always says what she feels. She's on oxygen sometimes specially at night. She's also a picky eater so we let her drink

Pediasure to assist in some of the nutrients she needs."

Dr. Leticia Borja, Chloe's pediatrician, was the one who wrote Make-A-Wish Foundation after asking her parents' permission. Make-A-Wish also gave Chloe a brand new iPad Pro while Docomo Pacific donated a Beats Solo2 wireless headphones, JBL clip speakers, and other giveaways.



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Guam archdiocese reviewing sex abuse response policy

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Guam's archdiocese is reviewing how it responds to allegations of sexual abuse against church officials after the archbishop was accused of assaulting boys in the 1970s.

Archbishop Savio Hon Tai Fai, a temporary administrator appointed by the Vatican after the allegations surfaced, said a group met Friday to consider changing its policy.

The review does not stem from the accusations against Archbishop Anthony Apuron, who has denied the abuse and not been charged with any crime, church officials said.

Rather, the group is working to ensure the best policy is in place, Monsignor Brigido "Bibi" Arroyo said Monday.

"It is to go over the policy, see if there's revision or update needed. That is being done by

the team," Arroyo told the *Pacific Daily News*.

On top of the review, the archdiocese has appointed a new sexual abuse response coordinator, he said.

That comes a month after a former coordinator called the church's sexual abuse policy weak and flawed and said it needs to be changed. Deacon Steve Martinez said he had made requests as early as 2014 to have the policy revised. Apuron replaced Martinez after he raised the issue.

Apuron, the archdiocese and up to 50 other unnamed individuals face a libel and slander lawsuit from four people who say they were called liars when they raised the decades-old abuse allegations.

They also have testified in support of legislation lifting the statute of limitations for

lawsuits against those accused of child sex abuse.

A phone number listed for Apuron was disconnected. The archdiocese previously declined to offer a number to The Associated Press where he could be reached for comment.

Neither the archdiocese nor Hon have provided an official comment on the lawsuit or the bill, but Hon seemed to address both in a Sunday message.

"Modern societies have sharpened the tools of the law and people may be led to the belief that wrongdoings can be solved simply by lawsuits or the passage of certain bills," Hon said. "Today Jesus asks his followers to go beyond the book of the law and to try to see things from the perspective of mercy."

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UOG announces 8 years of accreditation from WASC

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) has reaffirmed another eight years of accreditation for the University of Guam, guaranteeing that UOG has met the Commission's high standards of quality and effectiveness.

"We are extremely proud to announce the reaffirmation of another eight years of accreditation," said Dr. Robert Underwood, UOG president. "We received our first eight years of accreditation in 2009, and our new term will last until 2024. This accomplishment will mark an unprecedented 16 years of continuous accreditation for UOG."

The announcement comes after the Commission evaluated the University's institutional report and conducted a three-day on-site review in April.

"Reaffirmation of eight years of regional accreditation by the Commission is impressive, and it signals to the educational community and the public UOG's strong commitment to high quality standards and public accountability," added Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez, Senior Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs, who also served as the University's Accreditation Liaison Officer.

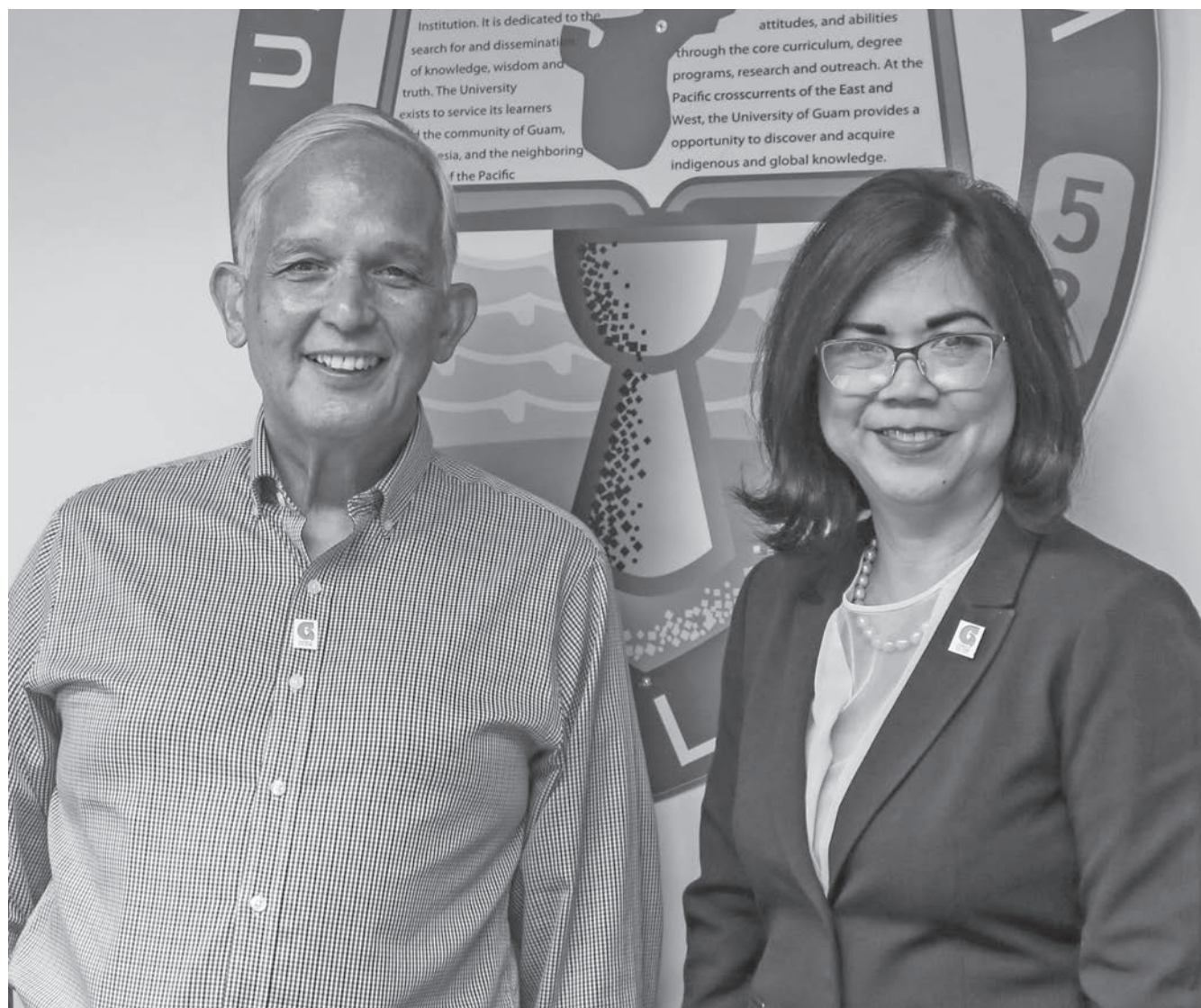
In its official action letter, the Commission noted it was particularly impressed with the University's Good to Great (G2G) initiative, calling the process "ambitious, progressive, comprehensive, and successful," and commended the inclusion of the University's "stakeholders, internal and external, in shaping the initiative."

Mention of the process is threaded throughout the University's institutional report. The Commission commented that UOG's report was

» WASC commends UOG's Good to Great Initiative, Board of Regents, and fiscal responsibility

"thematically centered on the Good to Great initiative, which provided a compelling, unifying framework for the report, consistent with its role in charting the university's course for the next five to ten years."

The Good to Great (G2G) initiative is a process of program prioritization that began in 2012. G2G aims to transform the University in the areas of: the student experience, connectivity, financial sustainability, use of Big Data, and human resources. Each academic and administrative program was evaluated and ranked based on its fit to UOG's mission to serve Guam and the Region, sustainability, quality, and demand relationships. All members of



the University Community including faculty, staff, administrators, and students have been involved in the process since its inception.

Regarding quality assurance in both academic and non-academic planning, the Commission noted, "UOG has travelled a great distance in this regard through development of its Good to Great (G2G) initiative which has placed the quest for high quality, clear regional impact, and fiscal responsibility under a single evaluative lens. UOG is to be commended for its effort."

The commitment to establishing goals commensurate with the institution's relationship to its external environment and the prioritization of academic programs and administrative units in pursuit of those goals are progressive and, in many ways, daring."

The Commission also praised the University's Board of Regents in its report, characterizing the Board as "independent and engaged," working "assiduously during the present administration to establish and maintain independence in its decision authority from the legislature," and noting that its relationship with the legislature has served the UOG "well in terms of its

board governance structures and fiscal sustainability."

"It's extremely uncommon for a board to receive a commendation from WASC," added Underwood. "It speaks to our Board's level of commitment to and support for the University and its leadership in helping us achieve our goal of becoming great."

Also receiving commendation was the University's strong fiscal responsibility "in the face of challenging resource constraints." The Commission mentioned UOG's diversification of revenue streams and its achievement of multi-year surpluses. In FY2015, UOG received 39 percent (\$34.2M) of its total revenues from Gov-Guam and nearly matched that amount (\$33.9M) through federal grants and contracts.

COMMENDATIONS

The Commission commended the University in seven areas:

1 Taking steps to implement each of the team's recommendations immediately after the visit. The Commission is pleased to learn of the university's efforts to: strengthen graduation rates; invest in data management; hire additional staff to support institutional research; institutionalize SSIT; enhance program review; and undertake co-curricular assessment.

2 Designing and carrying out the Good to Great (G2G) initiative. The Commission is impressed

by this ambitious, progressive, comprehensive, and successful endeavor. The stated objective of prioritization is particularly commendable, as is the inclusion of the university's stakeholders, internal and external, in shaping the initiative.

3 Demonstrating strong fiscal stewardship. In the face of challenging resource constraints, the university has achieved multi-year financial surpluses. The diversification of revenue streams has been critical to the university's financial sustainability. The Commission applauds senior leadership for its fiscal discipline and for aligning resources with institutional priorities.

4 Developing an effective relationship with the Board of Regents. As reported by the team, the board is actively engaged, strongly independent, fully autonomous, and highly supportive of the University of Guam.

5 Focusing on regional needs. The university has demonstrated a deep commitment to regional needs and the public good through education, research and service.

6 Strengthening first-year retention to 74.5 percent. The University of Guam has implemented a range activities and practices that are leading to student success.

7 Creating a remarkably inclusive, collaborative culture focused on good university citizenship. The G2G process, in addition

to a number of university initiatives, reflects this approach to collaborating across constituencies, in order to break down silos, create synergies, and forge a new unified direction for the university.

"We are thrilled with this outcome," said Enriquez. "The seven commendations presented by the Commission demonstrate the collective commitment of the University community to institutional effectiveness, student success through retention and degree completion, high academic quality, fiscal sustainability, and relevant public value."

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Commission also recommended the University continue its work in five areas.

"The recommendations are works in progress that are currently being addressed by G2G," added Underwood.

The Commission identified the following issues for further development:

1 Continue to focus on improving undergraduate graduation and completion rates. This includes examining why students do not return; more detailed record keeping, including coding of non-degree seeking student, and disaggregating data with numbers and percentages for off-island Micronesian students; and more sophisticated analyses of attrition (CFR 2.10).

2 Expand the institutional research function to include research

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, University of Guam president Dr. Robert Underwood and senior vice president for Academic & Student Affairs Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez.

and analysis of trends related to completion, undergraduate and graduate, in addition to scheduled data reporting. This will enhance the already developing culture of data-informed decision-making (CFR 4.2).

3 Clarify the connections among multiple campus initiatives focused on student success, including the Student Success Innovation Team and the Academic Master Plans, with the intent to understand the diversity of students' educational goals. Designate an institutional locus of responsibility for student success to align and coordinate initiatives and ensure accountability (CFR 2.13).

4 Examine the academic program review process with an eye to clarifying the purpose, strengthening the impact, simplifying the procedures, creating accountability, ensuring timeliness, removing redundancies, and integrating the priorities from G2G into the review criteria (CFR 2.7).

5 Continue to develop co-curricular assessment and implement periodic review (CFR 2.11).

For more information and to view the WASC Senior College and University Commission action letter and report, visit www.uog.edu/accreditation or on the WASC website at www.wascsenior.org.

The WASC Senior College and University Commission is a regional accrediting agency serving a diverse membership of public and private higher education institutions throughout California, Hawaii, and the Pacific as well as a limited number of institutions outside the U.S. Through its work of peer review, based on standards agreed to by the membership, the Commission encourages continuous institutional improvement and assures the membership and its constituencies, including the public, that accredited institutions are fulfilling their missions in service to their students and the public good.

The WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as certifying institutional eligibility for federal funding in a number of programs, including student access to federal financial aid. (PR)

Sumay Memorial Mass to be held on US Naval Base Guam

SANTA RITA, Guam—U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG) Commanding Officer Capt. Hans Sholley is inviting former residents of Sumay village and their descendants to a memorial Mass on NBG July 20.

The event is coordinated with the Santa Rita Mayor's Office as part of the island's

Liberation Day festivities.

The Mass will be held 11am at Sumay Cemetery, followed by a luncheon hosted by the mayor's office. Former Sumay residents and descendants may contact the Santa Rita Mayor's office to arrange access for the Mass.

Sumay village was once known as the "Pearl of the Island" before World War II. Evolving from a small fishing village to the agricultural and commercial hub for ships in the mid-1800s, it became an economically rich village by the 1930s. For the past several years, the NBG commanding officer has invited former residents and their descendants to hold a memorial Mass as part of Liberation Day ceremonies. **(PR)**

Kilili bill backs 902 team immigration goals

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (Ind-MP) introduced last Thursday legislation that reflects the immigration policy proposals presented by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and his team of negotiators in Section 902 consultations with the White House in June.

"I made a commitment to the Governor to introduce legislation in the U.S. Congress that would support the immigration policies he put forward in 902 consultations and today I kept that promise," Sablan said.

Sablan had drafted a bill for introduction, when the Governor came to Washington in June to meet for the first time with the President's Special Representative for the 902 talks. Additions by the Governor's negotiating team after arrival, however, required that draft bill to be revised. The bill introduced today now more fully reflects the Governor's policy positions.

Section 902 consultations are a means of resolving issues affecting the relationship between the United States and the Northern Mariana Islands. Section 902 is part of the Covenant of Political Union that established the relationship in the 1970s.

Immigration has been a problem for the Northern Mariana Islands ever since the local government opened the door to tens of thousands of foreign workers beginning in the early 1980s. The federal government took over management of immigration in 2009 and has since reduced

the number of foreign workers to about 13,000, about half the total workforce in the islands. But new economic growth has led to pressures to increase that number again.

Sablan has been engaged in extensive listening sessions with the business community, workers, legislators, and the general public in the Marianas. He also consulted closely with the Governor to align their policy positions.

"Realistically, the chance of getting immigration legislation, as complex as the bill introduced today, enacted in this Congress is slim," Sablan said.

"Immigration is one of the most hotly contested areas of debate in our nation right now. Besides, with Congress leaving today for a seven week break and another six weeks off before the November election there is very little time to get legislation enacted.

"But putting all of these ideas out in the open is an important step. It demonstrates that there is agreement among Commonwealth leaders."

The governor proposed—and Sablan's bill includes—extension of the current immigration transition period until 2029. It keeps in place a plan to cut the number of foreign workers allowed under a special Northern Marianas-only program to zero by the end of that period. But the bill resets the starting point for the cuts from the current 12,999 to 18,000, leaving more room to accommodate the current investment boom.

Sablan was previously successful at extending the transition period from 2014 to 2019. He accomplished that two years ago in Public Law 113-235. But even with the extra time to replace foreign workers the number of U.S. workers in the Northern Marianas has remained virtually unchanged.

In response, the new legislation looks for more accountability on how training funds are used to help bring U.S. workers into the economy. Sablan introduced legislation, H.R. 2200, in 2013 that required the Commonwealth government to submit a plan of expenditure each year with specific goals for the number of U.S. workers the training funds will produce. H.R. 2200 also required a report to Congress on whether those job goals had been met. Both requirements are now part of the Governor's 902 policy position.

The new bill also will require that employers in the Marianas pay the prevailing wage, typically more than the minimum wage, to foreign workers. This policy both discourages the use of foreign workers by making them more expensive and at the same time encourages U.S. workers to take jobs that are now paying a higher wage.

Once in Washington, the Governor and his 902 team also added the provision that Congressman Sablan had successfully included in the comprehensive immigration reform bill, S. 744, passed by the Senate in

2013. That provision gave foreign workers, who had been living legally in the Northern Marianas for over ten years, the ability to continue living and working in the islands. After another five years those workers could apply for U.S. permanent resident status. The intent was to stabilize the local economy by keeping in place long-time employees, who would otherwise have to leave as the total number of foreign workers was cut to zero. The House never acted on S.744.

Sablan said he was grateful that the governor had taken these previous legislative proposals and added them to the 902 negotiating position.

The governor's 902 negotiating team includes Commonwealth Labor Secretary Edith DeLeon Guerrero, Public Lands Secretary Marianne Teregeyo, Governor's chief of staff Matt DeLeon Guerrero, Governor's legal counsel Wesley Bogdan, Senator Arnold Palacios, Representative Angel Demapan, Tinian Mayor Joey San Nicolas, Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig, Saipan Chamber of Commerce officer Alex Sablan, and legal advisors Rose Villazor and Matthew Adams.

Interior Assistant Secretary Esther Kia'aina is the President's Special Representative.

Section 902 consultations are expected to continue for the next several months. A final report to the President is planned for this December. **(PR)**



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Qualifications: Preferably specialized in electrical engineering or equivalent. Previous professional experience in electrical engineering. At least high school diploma or equivalent. Few months to 1 year experience.

• Brick Layer

Requirements: Independently lay ceramic tiles and stone materials. Obey construction arrangement and consciously complete allocated construction tasks. Construct building according to work order without arbitrarily changing construction items and requirements. Rapidly construct building with good quality and enough quantity during work time. Get raw materials according to list of construction items. Economize raw material and eradicate waste. Ensure that residual raw materials are recycled properly and stored into warehouse. Pay attention to the safety of construction so as to prevent theft, fire disaster, and personal injury. Ensure that work order and materials order be timely check and signed.

Qualifications:

At least high school diploma or equivalent. Familiar with dry hanging technology of stone materials; skillfully operate cutting machine, angle grinder and other special machinery for brick laying. At least a few months to 1 year of related experience and/or training, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. General knowledge of construction work.

• Painter

Requirements: Applies paint materials to walls, ceilings, and assigned areas of the project site. Will be responsible for protecting paint supplies from inflammable and explosive items. Blend paint according to requirements (precision, air compression pump, exhaust pump, meter reading, etc.). Will perform other task as assigned.

Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent. Few months to 1 year experience. General knowledge of construction work.

• Woodworker

Requirements: Responsible for all duties relating to engineering and construction planning of wood-related work. Will be guided by a direct supervisor and solve any forthcoming issues or delays. Assist in providing safe work conditions. Responsible for geometric dimension, axes shifting, and all duties necessary to complete assigned tasks.

Qualifications: At least high school diploma or equivalent. Few months to 1 year experience. General knowledge of construction work.

Please submit resume to grandlandgroupcnmi@gmail.com



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

A matador dies for senseless sport

Most people limit their exposure to bullfighting to old Ernest Hemingway novels. The thousands of men — and women — who make annual pilgrimages to Pamplona and other cities in Spain to run with the bulls are in the minority of humanity. You don't have to be an animal-rights activist to be absolutely creeped out by the masochistic danger that results from antagonizing angry, 2,000-pound bulls. Injuries to those who wish to experience the adrenaline high of running with the bulls has increased 5.1 percent annually since 1980, according to news reports.

While running with the bulls has always been stupid, what happened on Spanish television recently was horrifying. Victor Barrio, a 29-year-old bullfighter, was gored to death while millions watched. The young matador, who had performed a dance of death with bulls many times since 2010, either ran out of luck or finally met an opponent that was too fast and too inscrutable even for him.

Barrio's lungs were punctured as a horrified nation looked on. Though he was treated at the scene, his wounds were too extensive. By the time he reached the hospital, he was close to death, if not dead already. He was the first fatality among matadors this century. Bullfighting is a cherished part of Hispanic culture, rooted in a way that is difficult for others to appreciate. There's no chance that it will go away anytime soon. That's too bad because it should.

The bull, of course, is in a no-win situation. If the matador is to live, the bull must die. The matador engages in a dance to kill the bull, which is appalling all by itself. Occasionally, the bull "wins" and either kills or injures the matador. But the bull is then put to death for having defended itself. Apologists for bullfighting see something "redemptive" about the whole ritual while others just see it for what it is — naked barbarism.

This year's running of the bulls in Pamplona produced various injuries, some of them serious. Fortunately, there hasn't been a death at Pamplona since 2009. At Pedreguer, a 28-year-old was killed recently during a bull run through the streets of that city.

There is much ritual and national pride wrapped up in bullfighting. Still, that doesn't mean that a serious discussion about the place of such a barbaric spectacle at the center of Spanish life isn't long overdue.

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Woman leader could be spark that U.N. needs

PARIS — When it comes to Western political leaders, we have definitely arrived at The Time of the Woman. Hillary Clinton is the first serious female candidate for U.S. president, Theresa May just took over as British prime minister and Germany's Angela Merkel remains the most powerful European politician. Moreover, the nationalist Marine Le Pen will most likely make the final round for French president in 2017.

So why not a woman to succeed Ban Ki-moon for secretary-general of the United Nations when he steps down later this year?

At a time of overwhelming global crises, when the U.N. is flagging and international institutions are under attack, might a female leader provide the spark to rejuvenate the world body? That's a question member states are pondering. Even Ban has weighed in, saying it is "high time for a secretary-general to be a woman."

That would be a big jump for an organization that had a reputation for rampant sexism not so long ago.

The top U.N. official is selected by the Security Council in what used to be a secretive process that generally rotated the job by region. Last year, the rules were changed to produce a more transparent selection process; six of the 12 candidates are women, and the betting is that this year's choice will come from Eastern Europe.

The Security Council will still make the final cut — and will conduct an informal "straw poll" on July 21.

I sat down in a Left Bank café with Irina Bokova, one of the leading candidates, who is a Bulgarian diplomat and the first female director-general of the Paris-based United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). I asked the elegant, gray-haired Bokova, who is fluent in English, French, Spanish and Russian as well as her own language, why she thought a woman secretary-general could make a difference.

"We need a critical mass of women to take up serious positions, so it becomes natural," she told me. "I don't say we are better than men, (but) it changes the overall culture of doing politics." The implication is that a woman might do better at promoting programs for mediation and prevention of war.

Perhaps, although we seem to be entering a global phase in which testosterone-driven violence trumps efforts at conflict resolution. Still, there is every reason that qualified women should have the chance to show their stuff, and Bokova has become a role model for them.

"I put a stress on gender equality by making half my man-

By **TRUDY RUBIN**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Trudy Rubin is a columnist for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may email her at trubin@phillynews.com



agement team women," she said. Under Bokova, UNESCO has worked intensively to expand education prospects for girls and women in poor countries.

Of course, the challenges facing the United Nations go far beyond gender parity. With xenophobic nationalism on the rise in the West, as well as in Russia and China, the future of multinational organizations is in question.

As civil wars and terrorism increase, U.N. negotiating efforts to end the Syrian conflict have failed, and its agencies have been deluged by refugee crises and pandemics such as Ebola. Meantime, peacekeeping operations (with 104,000 troops) are in a negative spotlight after allegations of sexual abuse by some its troops.

As for the job itself, the U.N.'s chief executive must simultaneously function as mega-manager, fund-raiser, mediator, and global proselytizer for peace, economic development, and human rights. Even when members aren't listening.

I asked Bokova why she would even want the job. "My husband asks me the same question," she replied with a laugh. But she insists — despite a world moving in the opposite direction — that she still fervently believes in multilateralism and the possibilities of preventive action.

She is no stranger to uphill battles. On her watch, UNESCO, whose member states often take anti-Israel positions, developed a teacher-training program and curricula on preventing genocide and on Holocaust education. Last year, she blocked a resolution by UNESCO's executive board to reclassify the Western Wall of Jerusalem's Old City as part of a holy Muslim complex while ignoring its status as Judaism's holiest location. And she successfully fought to get jihadi looting and destruction of ancient Mideast cultural sites, such as Palmyra, officially labeled a war crime.

However, when UNESCO members recognized the state of Palestine in 2011, triggering a cutoff of U.S. dues, Bokova had to manage a 30 percent cut to her budget (a skill that led Ban to appoint her chair of a high-level management committee).

Whether Bokova's experience at UNESCO and as acting Bulgarian foreign minister will suffice to manage, let alone reform, a

See **WOMAN** on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

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Ryan offers hope for future of once-great Grand Old Party

I watched Paul Ryan's town hall on CNN this week for a number of reasons, not the least of which is my slight (OK, significant) crush on the House speaker. He is a decade younger than I am, and more geek chic than GQ, but I still have a button that says, "I Heart Paul" from his ill-fated run as Mitt Romney's vice president, which I wear when I want to annoy the liberals at Starbucks.

Beyond that admittedly shallow fact, he is the most important Republican in the country, not simply because of his political clout, but also because of his mission: saving the party of Lincoln from both the rogues attacking "the establishment" and the progressives who want to go all nuclear on the principles of personal responsibility, limited government and sobriety. He was mentored by the legendary Jack Kemp, he of the great hair and greater heart.

Listening to Ryan respond to questions from the audience, I had immense admiration for his ability to embody all that I wish the GOP still was, and all that I know the Democrats will never be again. Those things, in no particular order, are: earnest, accountable, visionary, critical-thinking, cognizant of history, respectful of tradition, compassionate, individualistic, unabashedly patriotic. His answers to questions about immigration, religious freedom, civil liberties, poverty and Donald Trump were masterful — particularly the response to a young Republican who criticized the speaker for endorsing the "bigoted" presumptive nominee.

Ryan said what I have been reduced to saying, namely that Trump will not harm the country as much as Hillary Clinton. He didn't exactly say it in those terms, but his meaning was more than clear. Trump will not elevate us, but he will not destroy the foundations of the society we hope to salvage from the ruins of the Obama years. Clinton will continue the transformation, until conservatives no longer recognize the country, its institutions or our fellow citizens.

Yes, that is apocalyptic language or, if you prefer, histrionic. I've been accused of being a drama queen who focuses too much on abortion, on the Supreme Court (and, thanks to Justice Ruthie, I'm on it like a dog with a bone,) on bigotry (otherwise known as religious freedom,) on the irrelevancies of emails and dead ambassadors.

On the other hand, I've been attacked by those who think Ryan doesn't like Trump enough, for not believing in the righteous necessity of a wall subsidized by pesos, a blanket ban on Mohammed, Fatima and their kids, policy papers issued in 140 characters or fewer, and a man who appeals to the basest form of populism. Saying I will vote for Trump does not mean that I don't cover the mirrors in my home so I can avoid my reflection in the morning.

So, that is where I am. Longing for the party described by Ryan on TV, but realizing it's probably lost forever. Even if Trump wins, which is possible, he will bring neither the intellectual firepower nor the philosophical integrity that this party,

By **CHRISTINE M. FLOWERS**
Philadelphia Daily News

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more than my old home among the Democrats, represented for decades, if not centuries.

And as we await the circus in Cleveland, replete with political strippers and con men and glittery prime-time shell games, filled with a Frankenstein platform that will please no one as it tries to appease pro-lifers and gay capitalists, I wonder what will happen to me if Trump is elected or, worse horror, Clinton ekes out a victory.

Excuse me for navel-gazing, but this is my column and we are a society that has raised Facebook to the level of illuminated manuscripts in cultural importance, so if you've come this far, you might as well stay for the rest of it.

As a person who finds the rhetoric of the left repellent when it feeds me such things as "a woman should have the choice to control her own body, the one that sometimes happens to have an extra set of DNA — not to mention legs and arms — floating around in it," I will never again be able to call myself a Democrat. Contrary to popular belief, I have officially have been a member of the GOP only since March 26 of this year, hoping to put John Kasich over the top in Pennsylvania (yeah, that worked). At 18, I registered in the party of Kennedy, and voted for Carter.

But I have never been fully accepted by the Democrats, who not only embrace abortion as a right, but who also take our racial and cultural differences and use them to divide us for political gain. It makes me sick, me with my melting-pot orientation and immigration cred, to hear people such as Jim Kenney, Ed Rendell and Katie McGinty, good Democrats all, exploit immigrants for their critical mass as "victims." Believe me, they don't want your election-year sympathy, you in the party of the president whose great failure is not presiding over immigration reform.

Hearing that, the GOP will cringe in horror, and hope, perhaps, that I will be shot by one of those vicious illegal criminals like the one who killed Kate Steinle, a woman whose death is being shamelessly exploited by conservative pundits who don't know a damn thing about the immigration system and why that ship is taking on water.

Listening to Paul Ryan this week and recognizing the agony he is going through in having to support Trump, I had the crazy thought that maybe one day before I am as doddering as a certain bespectacled Supreme Court justice, I will be able to vote for him at the top of the ticket.

That is the party I could truly embrace, one that sees poverty as neither a badge of honor nor a sin, one that respects both unborn life and the lives of kindergartners staring down the barrel of unnecessary guns, one that doesn't look at regulation as a blessing, or a curse, but a useful tool in moderation.

That is a dream worth clinging to, as the nightmares unfold this month, in Cleveland and in my own hometown.

WOMAN

From Page 10

balky U.N. staff of 44,000 is a question. She must also overcome rumors, which she strongly denies, that she is close to Russia's Vladimir Putin. She notes that both her children live in the United States, one is a U.S. citizen, and her brief meetings with Putin were part of official U.N. delegations.

Then there are the five other female candidates, including ex-Croatian Foreign Minister Vesna Pusic and the head of the U.N.'s development program, Helen Clark, a former New Zealand prime minister. Not to mention those six male contenders.

But by promoting female U.N. leadership by her example, Bokova has already done the world body a service. Men have few bragging rights when it comes to running the United Nations. So why not give a highly qualified woman the chance?

What now for Dallas in wake of prayers, pain?

What now — now that speeches have been said, prayers prayed, and politicians have paid respect? These latter days have been days of intense collective pain, the affliction of a strange social cancer finally come close, historic pain echoing an older Dallas, felt and not just watched, suffered anew by a new generation, a pain drawn nigh and tears cried.

But they have also been days of beauty and character, days of multicolored glory and grace, the embrace of black and white, traumatized sudden solidarity and hope of a more real reconciliation. These days have been like a dawn, like a beginning, the birth of a new Dallas, maybe even a new nation.

Still tenderly sad, still teary, but proud. I'm proud of Dallas, this beautiful city of beautiful people, proud of our officers, our police chief, our mayor, our citizens, our religious leaders, our journalists. In our grief we have ministered to the nation. We've done well with our pain and even better with our beauty. We have proved hate wrong, violence wrong. Pained but proud of our city. Dallas, Texas. Us.

But what now?

How will we conjugate the verbs of these moving memorials? How will we translate these inspirational speeches and prayers into an ethics, a new genuine brotherhood and sisterhood of trust and common concern? What now?

In my work I sometimes come across people who make magic out of God, who try to make religion a means for easily exorcising all the difficulties in their lives. Overwhelmed by the rhetoric and aesthetic of faith, they think all they need do is pray, confess, light a candle and all will be well again. Swept up and inspired, they sometimes don't think about the work it'll take, the discipline, the hard changes necessary. Hope made magical, as I said, hypnotized by mere good words; they think that's all it'll take — words and warm feelings. It's religion whittled down to pure fantasy, feelings, nothing more, an almost neurotic turning away from hard truth and the hard work of real discipline and change.

That's my concern for Dallas now, and my prayer. My hope is that we take the beauty of all the words we've heard and translate them into action. My hope is that we move beyond inspiring words and get into the details and the mechanics and even the metaphysics of our social ills. My prayer is that we bravely now talk about the dollars and cents of racism, good policing, housing and education and on and on.

Otherwise, and not insignificantly speaking as a white person, we risk committing a shallow age-old sin: the sin of sentimentality and ethical impotence. Thomas Merton, that old, rather gutsy monk, wrote a lot about faith and race in the heat of the 1960s.

By **FATHER JOSHUA J. WHITFIELD**

The Dallas Morning News

Father Joshua J. Whitfield is the parochial vicar and director of faith formation and education at St. Rita Catholic Church in Dallas. He wrote this for the Dallas Morning News. Readers may email him at jwhitfield@stritaparish.net



And he talked about the white liberal problem of admiring "black dignity at a distance" but not up close, not next door. "Nobility is one thing and property values quite another," he said. That's the sin, the danger, the risk we run — talking beautifully about racial harmony, reconciliation and peace but doing nothing about it, as if our words were enough to magically bring it about. Or rather make it all go away.






No. As Dr. King said once, "Budgets are moral documents." The measure of our words will be our ethics, our detailed response, not our present pathos. My hope for Dallas is that we move beyond good words into the detailed assessments, arguments and judgments necessary for true systemic healing. My hope is that Dallas demonstrates that it is indeed possible to do more than dance the dance of shock, social sadness, and then forgetfulness.

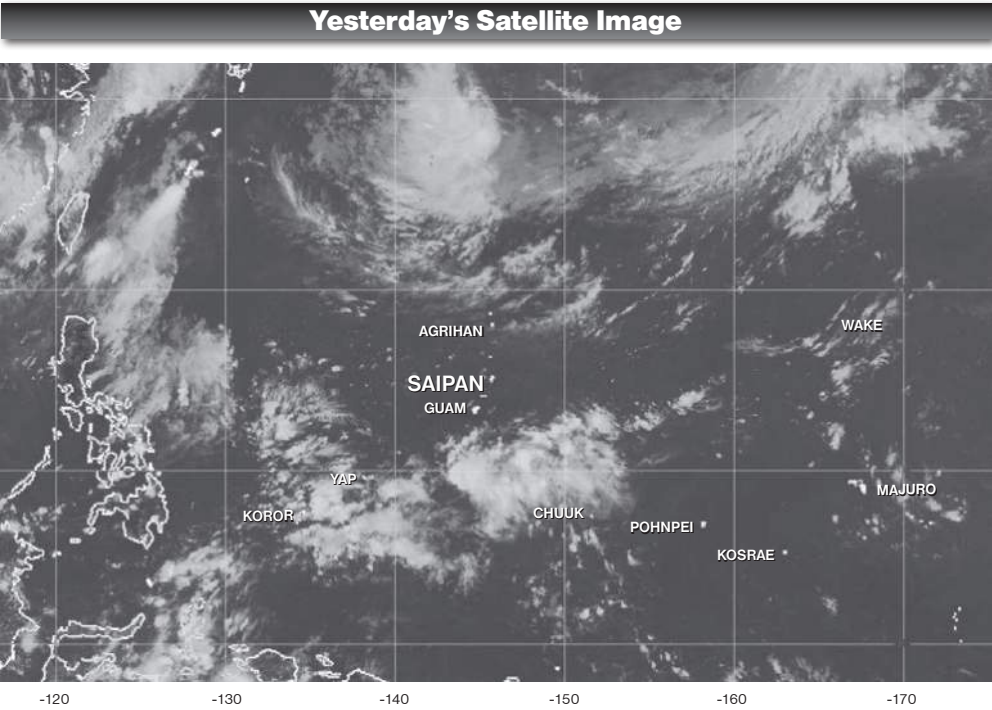
My hope is that we refuse the refuge of the normal and instead commit ourselves truly to each other and to each other's good, that we honor our words with our deeds, that our talk becomes finally talk about budgets and property values. Peace has more to do with potholes, dogs, Child Protective Services and schools than with speeches and candlelight vigils. To these we must now turn. For only then will a true dawn break — when it becomes the boring work of local government, no longer abstract or sentimental.

We must resist what Freud called the "compulsion to repeat," a symptom of the traumatized. We must at some point break the devilish rhythm of this danse macabre, which has run among us so relentlessly of late. But we can only do it by immersing ourselves in the details, honestly and candidly, trading words for deeds. Only then will we begin to move beyond this, stronger and more united.

And if any city can do it, it's Dallas, a city of pain and beauty and character. We've got the people and the courage. What now? That's our new question. Let's answer it together.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian				
TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	 Partly cloudy. Isolated showers.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 89° ▼ 80°	▲ 90° ▼ 80°	▲ 90° ▼ 79°	▲ 90° ▼ 79°	▲ 90° ▼ 80°



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, MONDAY, JULY 18, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough runs northward across Palau from 2N132E to 14N136E. Widely scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are between 5N and 14N from 133E to 137E. Another surface trough extends northeastward between Yap and Chuuk from 6N139E to 12N152E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms southeast of Yap are within 150 miles of a line from 6N139E to 7N144E and from south of Guam to north of Chuuk within 90 miles of a line from 9N145E to 9N153E. Trade-wind convergence is causing scattered showers near Majuro within 80 miles of 8N172E. A frontal system is far north of the Marianas with cloudiness and patchy showers north of 23N from 138E to 153E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia ▼ ▲		
Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	82 / 91 °F
Palau	Mostly cloudy	79 / 86 °F
Yap	Mostly cloudy	79 / 89 °F
Chuuk	Partly cloudy	79 / 88 °F
Pohnpei	More sun than clouds	80 / 87 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	83 / 87 °F
Majuro	Morning clouds	82 / 87 °F

Around the Globe ▼ ▲		
Auckland	More sun than clouds	54 / 57 °F
Beijing	Heavy rain	71 / 75 °F
Hong Kong	Afternoon clouds	82 / 89 °F
Honolulu	Mostly sunny	74 / 84 °F
London	Sunny	64 / 86 °F
Los Angeles	Mostly sunny	62 / 84 °F
Manila	Mostly cloudy	80 / 93 °F
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	52 / 61 °F
Miami	Mostly sunny	82 / 87 °F
New York	Mostly sunny	73 / 87 °F
Osaka	More sun than clouds	70 / 90 °F
Paris	Sunny	67 / 91 °F
Pusan	A mixture of sun and clouds	72 / 86 °F
Rome	Sunny	64 / 96 °F
Salem	Light showers	58 / 74 °F
San Francisco	Morning clouds	56 / 68 °F
Seoul	Morning clouds	66 / 89 °F
Tokyo	Morning clouds	76 / 87 °F
Washington, DC	Partly sunny	73 / 89 °F



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Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
1:12 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.14 Feet
6:14 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.89 Feet
1:35 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.3 Feet
8:29 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.86 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	5:56 AM	6:51 PM
Wednesday	5:56 AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:56 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:57 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:57 AM	6:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	6:10 PM	5:00 AM
Wednesday	7:00 PM	5:54 AM
Thursday	7:50 PM	6:49 AM
Friday	8:37 PM	7:45 AM
Saturday	9:24 PM	8:41 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 6, 2016											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily			UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily		
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota			UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7		
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6			UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota		
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily			UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily		
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily			UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily			DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1			LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily		
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily		
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily			OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7		
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily			OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily		
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN			UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM		
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM			PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7		
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4			UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM		
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM			PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM		
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/2925	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR			UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM		
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM								
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM								
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR								
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN			HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4		
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM			UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7								

Inaugural Marianas Trench Fishing and Seafood Festival

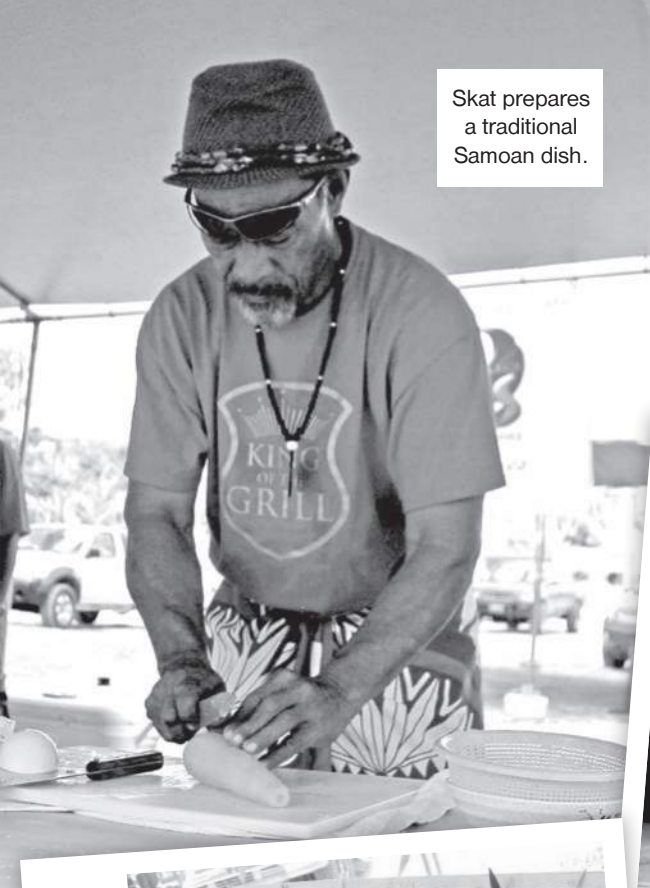
PHOTOS By JON PEREZ



Master chef cook-off champions Kevin Patubol, left, and Jonathan Borja, second left, of Hyatt Regency Saipan join Gary Sword and Department of Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman after receiving their \$300 cash prize in last Saturday's Inaugural Marianas Trench Fishing and Seafood Festival at the Garapan Fishing Base.



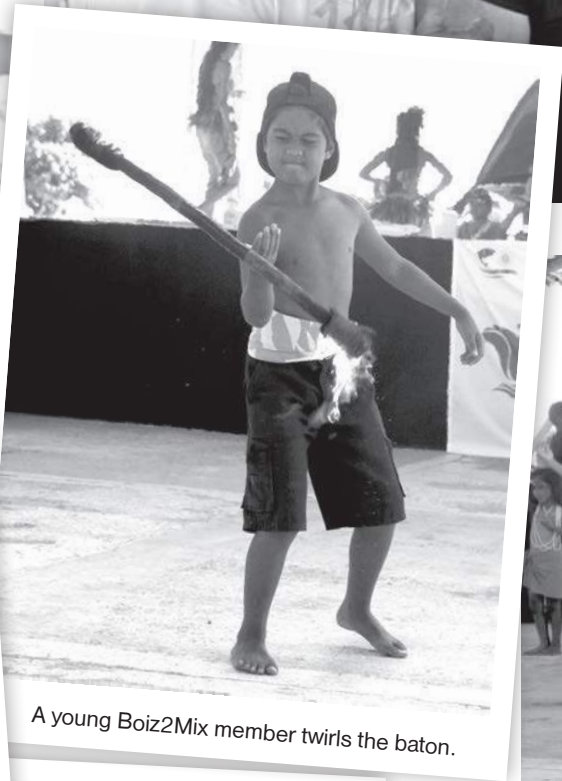
From left, JDN members Nick Nekai, Nolas Caliga, and Dan Laniyo were one of the groups that performed. Not in photo is Joe Takai.



Skat prepares a traditional Samoan dish.



Naked Fish's Only Abiera, second right, was third in the master chef cook-off.



A young Boiz2Mix member twirls the baton.



Marie Aguon, right, performs with other young dancers of Boiz2Mix.



Hair clips with floral designs were also on sale.



People get to sample the competing dishes in the cook-off.



Patrick Cepeda was the top winner in the amateur chef division of the cooking competition to win \$300. Henry Sablan was second.



Romeo Cabrera, left, and Sonny Encarnacion work on their dish. The duo was second in the master chef division.



Kika Tenorio, a member of MACPS (Manantigu Cultural Production Petlas Marianas Simiya Lina'la), performs with her group.



John Reyes was the recipient of a special award of \$50.



From left, MACPS advisers Celia Mercado and Frances Sablan with Gordon Marciano.



Master carver Michael K. Finey, left, talks with two tourists about his artworks.

Four-year-old Hiyori Okuma, left, gets her face painted by a Community Guidance Center staff.



Isidro Songal, left, and Kheani Blas were among the third generation members of Boiz2Mix.



Different types of fish that can be caught in the waters surrounding the CNMI were on display.



Clockwise from left, Division of Parks and Recreation director Eli Cabrera, Gina Tomokane, A.J. Mettao, and Orrin Pharmin were the judges of the cook-off.



Boiz2Mix's third generation members.



A foreign tourist samples one of the dishes competing in the cook-off.

Business

ADB says developing Asian economies to grow 5.6 pct

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Asian Development Bank said Monday it had cut its 2016 growth projection for developing economies in Asia and the Pacific to 5.6 percent, down from its earlier forecast of 5.7 percent, but added that the economies' performance will remain solid and help offset softness from the U.S. economy and near-term market shocks from Britain's vote to exit from the European Union.

The Manila-based lender's report said the growth forecast for 2017 of 5.7 percent made in March remains unchanged.

"Although the Brexit vote has affected developing Asia's currency and stock markets, its impact on the real economy in the short term is expected to be small," said Shang-Jin Wei, the ADB's chief economist. "However, in light of the tepid growth prospects in the major industrial economies, policy mak-

ers should remain vigilant and be prepared to respond to external shocks to ensure growth in the region remains robust."

China, the world's second-biggest economy, is on track to meet earlier growth projections of 6.5 percent in 2016 and 6.3 percent in 2017, with the government expected to continue fiscal and monetary stimulus measures to support its targets. For East Asia as a whole, growth forecasts are unchanged at 5.7 percent in 2016 and 5.6 percent in 2017 despite muted activity in Hong Kong and South Korea, the report said.

But growth this year and next will be led by South Asia, which is expected to be the fastest growing sub-region, with India likely to meet projected growth target of 7.4 percent this year and 7.8 percent next year, supported by brisk consumer spending and growth in the rural economy.

In Southeast Asia, growth projections for 2016 and 2017

remain unchanged at 4.5 percent and 4.8 percent. Solid performance of most economies in the sub-region for the first half of this year was driven by private consumption, except for Vietnam where a worsening drought caused a contraction in the agricultural sector.

In Central Asia, 2016 growth forecast was trimmed to 1.7 percent from 2.1 percent, and for 2017 it was cut to 2.7 percent from 2.8 percent due to a slump in revenues from hydrocarbon exports of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan and the recession in Russia.

Growth this year in the Pacific is expected to slow to 3.9 percent from 7.1 percent in 2015, with the Fijian economy reeling from Cyclone Winston. But stronger-than-expected tourism receipts are boosting the economies of Cook Islands and Samoa while post-cyclone reconstruction is helping Vanuatu's economy.

Passed over for promotion? Handle it with grace

Q: During my last performance review, I told my supervisor that I hoped to replace her when she retired. When I asked if she had any suggestions for achieving that goal, she said there was nothing else I needed to do. As soon as she announced her retirement date, I applied for the position.

Even though there were other applicants, I believed I was clearly the most qualified. I not only have 20 years experience and excellent appraisal ratings, but I am also the team lead for our group. So I was shocked when management announced that "Danny" would become the new supervisor.

Danny worked with our team a few years ago, but he was not a good fit and eventually transferred to another department. Many people have said they were surprised by his selection because they expected me to be promoted. Now I'm in the awkward position of having to report to Danny, and I'm not sure how to handle it.

A: Although your disappointment is completely understandable, there is actually only one way to "handle it." You must swallow your pride and face this new reality with professionalism and grace. The alternative is to publicly exhibit your true feelings, which would not be to your benefit.

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By **MARIE G. MCINTYRE**
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of *Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.



Qualified or not, Danny is now your boss, so you need to respect his position even if you don't admire him personally. Any display of frustration, anger or resistance will only convince management that promoting you would have been a mistake. And that's not a conclusion you want them to reach.

Promotional decisions can be difficult, and you have no idea how close you may have come. Unsuccessful applicants are often considered for other opportunities. However, to find out where you stand, you need to get some feedback.

Without protesting this decision or complaining about Danny, ask some appropriate managers how you might become a stronger promotional candidate. If they praise your potential, that bodes well. But if they express concerns about your readiness, at least you'll know what you need to work on.

Q: I run a small business and try to be generous with giving my employees paid time

off because I truly believe in work-life balance. However, my employees often return from vacation exhausted and unable to concentrate on their work. How should I address this problem?

A: Kudos to you for recognizing that employees need leisure time. But when vacation is over, you have every right to expect their full attention, so don't hesitate to make this expectation clear.

For example: "I've noticed that after taking vacation, you frequently seem tired and have difficulty focusing on work. Although I believe time off is important, I need everyone to be fully engaged when they come back. How can we avoid this problem in the future?"

If everyone shows up in a post-holiday stupor, you can appropriately make this a group discussion. But if only a few people are guilty, then you need to have individual conversations. Managers should never chastise an entire group for the sins of a few members.

Nation

Former US Marine kills 3 Baton Rouge officers, wounds 3 others

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP)—A former Marine dressed in black and carrying extra ammunition shot and killed three Baton Rouge law enforcement officers Sunday, less than two weeks after a black man was fatally shot by police here in a confrontation that sparked nightly protests that reverberated nationwide.

Three other officers were wounded, one critically. Police said the gunman was killed at the scene.

The shooting less than a mile from police headquarters added to the tensions across the country between the black community and police. Just days earlier, one of the slain officers had posted an emotional Facebook message about the challenges of police work in the current environment.

President Barack Obama urged Americans to tamp down inflammatory words



Source: AP
Graphic: Staff, TNS

and actions.

"We don't need careless accusations thrown around to score political points or to advance an agenda. We need to temper our words and open our hearts ... all of us," Obama said.

The gunman was identified as Gavin Long of Kansas City, who turned 29 on Sunday.

Trump ready to complete improbable rise at GOP convention

CLEVELAND (AP)—A year ago, few imagined Donald Trump as a headline speaker at the Republican National Convention—let alone as its star.

Back then, maybe the billionaire New Yorker was alone in thinking he would arrive in Cleveland this week as the GOP's presumptive nominee for president. There are still some Republicans trying to stop him, but the party's four-day coronation of its unlikely White House hopeful will complete his rise from real estate mogul to potential leader of the free world.

"It was quite a journey," Republican National Com-

mittee Chairman Reince Priebus said. "Not just what he was able to do in getting more votes than any Republican in the history of our party, but do it with 16 people running. It is a remarkable thing."

Indeed, the man who opened his campaign as a late night TV punchline will face the nation as the Republican Party standard-bearer, delivering what could be the most watched convention speech of all time.

Trump will do so in a time of tumult at home and abroad, punctuated Sunday by the fatal shooting of three police officers in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

California student among the 84 people dead in France attack

LOS ANGELES (AP)—An American student from the University of California, Berkeley, was identified Sunday as one of the 84 people killed in Thursday's Bastille Day truck attack in the French city of Nice, according to statement from the school.

The university said the FBI informed school officials that the body of 20-year-old Nicolas Leslie of Del Mar in the San Diego area had been identified. Leslie was a junior at Berkeley's College of Natural Resources.

"This is tragic, devastating news," UC Berkeley Chancellor Nicholas Dirks said in a statement. "All of us in the UC Berkeley family—both

here on campus, and around the world—are heartbroken to learn that another promising young student has been lost to senseless violence."

Berkeley student Tarishi Jain was among the hostages killed by militants in Dhaka, Bangladesh, earlier this month.

Berkeley students have been plastering Nice with fliers asking for any information on Leslie and other students. Members of his family had raced to Nice after the attack to search for him.

Leslie was among three foreign students studying technology entrepreneurship at the European Innovation Academy who were among those missing after the attack.

Long, who was black, served in the Marines from 2005 to 2010, reaching the rank of sergeant. He deployed to Iraq from June 2008 to January 2009, according to military records.

Although he was believed to be the only person who fired at officers, authorities were investigating whether he had some kind of help.

"We are not ready to say he acted alone," state police spokesman Major Doug Cain said. Two "persons of interest" were detained for questioning in the nearby town of Addis. They were later released without any charges being filed.

While in the military, Long was awarded several medals, including one for good conduct, and received an honorable discharge. His occupational expertise was listed as "data network specialist."

Earlier this month the slaying of a black man in Baton Rouge by white officers led to protests nationwide and heightened concerns about the state of race relations in America. President Barack Obama, responding to the shooting Sunday, noted that the incidents had come just before political conventions that tend to involve "overheated" rhetoric, and he urged both parties to avoid "careless accusations" intended to score political points.

"Everyone right now, focus on words and actions that can unite this country, rather than divide us further," Obama said.

The other program participants still unaccounted for are 22-year-old Canada-based Ukrainian national Misha Bazelevsky and 21-year-old Estonian Rickard Kruusberg, Annie Seneard, a communication officer at the Nice branch of the academy, told The Associated Press.

Leslie was born in Italy and moved with his family to Del Mar, where he graduated from high school. At Berkeley, he was a member of Net Impact, a student-run consulting group that provides marketing, research and social responsibility advice to non-profits and businesses focused on environmental sustainability.

Asia

China digs in after tribunal rebuke; PH wants talks

A look at some recent key developments in the South China Sea, where China is pitted against smaller neighbors in multiple disputes over islands, coral reefs and lagoons in waters crucial for global commerce and rich in fish and potential gas and oil reserves:

■■■

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is a weekly look at the latest key developments in the South China Sea, home to several territorial conflicts that have raised tensions in the region.

■■■

PH READY FOR TALKS AFTER WINNING ARBITRATION

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte says he's ready for talks with China to try to solve their maritime dispute, after his government won an international arbitration case that challenged Beijing's vast claims.

It could be the first step toward a diplomatic solution to tensions that have been building up since China expelled Filipino fishermen from Scarborough Shoal in 2012, and

constructed seven island outposts on disputed reefs.

China says the ruling of the Permanent Court of Arbitration is "null and void" because the tribunal has no jurisdiction in this case.

The tribunal ruled that China's nine-dash line encompassing much of the sea violates international maritime law because it encroaches on the Philippines' own 200-nautical mile exclusive economic zone.

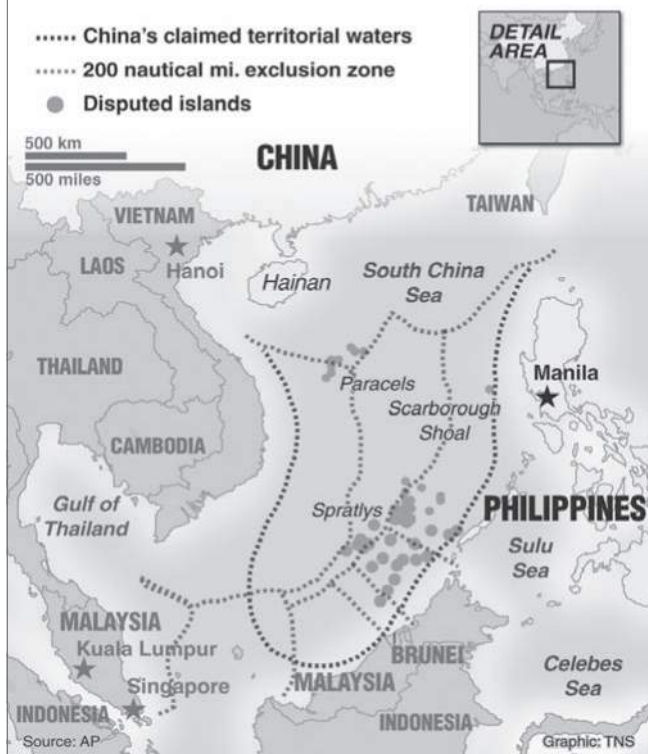
Duterte asked former President Fidel Ramos to travel to China and start the discussions. However, the 88-year-old former leader cited his age and other commitments in suggesting he may not be up for the job.

Duterte's goal of repairing relations with China—he already talked about his desire for Chinese-financed railways—will be constricted by the tribunal's ruling, and he could face fierce opposition at home if he tries to give Beijing concessions. Philippine Solicitor General Jose Calida said the ruling will form the basis for any negotiations.

China, on the other hand,

Tribunal rejects China's claims

An international tribunal rejected China's claims in the South China Sea in a ruling that also found it had violated the Philippines' maritime rights by building up artificial islands that destroyed coral reefs and by disrupting oil explorations.



says the opposite: talks are OK, but the ruling is not.

"After the storm of this arbitration has passed, and the sky

has cleared, we hope this day (of negotiations) will come quickly," said Vice Foreign Minister Liu Zhenmin, adding sent in Kashmir.

On Friday, Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif vowed that his country would continue extending political, moral and diplomatic support to Kashmiris. He said he called for observing the "black day" to express solidarity with "Kashmiris who are facing atrocities at the hands of Indian forces."

The largest street protests in recent years in India's portion of Kashmir erupted last week after Indian troops killed the popular young leader of the largest rebel group fighting against Indian rule in the region.

India stops Kashmir newspapers from printing amid unrest

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—Authorities in India's portion of Kashmir have shut down printing presses and temporarily banned newspapers from publishing in a sweeping information blackout after days of anti-India protests left dozens of people dead in the volatile region.

State government spokesman and Education Minister Nayeem Akhtar said the measures were aimed at saving lives and strengthening peace efforts. The government says 36 people—35 civilians and a police officer—have been killed in clashes between protesters and security forces,

while local human rights groups and newspapers say at least 40 have died.

A strict curfew was in effect in troubled areas for the ninth straight day Sunday, with hundreds of thousands of people trying to cope with shortages of food and other necessities. Tens of thousands of government troops patrolled mostly deserted streets in the region, where shops and businesses remained closed.

Kashmir, a predominantly Muslim region, is divided evenly between India and Pakistan, but both claim it in its entirety. Most people in India's portion resent the

presence of Indian troops and want independence or a merger with Pakistan.

Since 1989, more than 68,000 people have been killed in the uprising against Indian rule and the subsequent Indian military crackdown. India and Pakistan have fought two wars over control of Kashmir since British colonialists left the Indian subcontinent in 1947.

Unwilling to take any chances, Indian authorities appear to be persisting with their clampdown to avoid aggravating tensions in view of Pakistan's call for a "black day" on Wednesday to protest India's handling of dis-

that China believed cooperation would also bring Filipinos "tangible benefits."

President Barack Obama's nominee for the next U.S. ambassador to the Philippines, Sung Kim, said the United States would support China-Philippines negotiations that were free from "coercion and undue pressure."

The U.S. Navy's top admiral, meanwhile, arrived in Beijing Sunday for talks with his Chinese counterpart about the South China Sea and other issues. The visit by Adm. John Richardson, chief of naval operations, also will include a tour of the aircraft carrier Liaoning in its home port of Qingdao.

FILIPINO FISHERMEN TURNED BACK FROM SCARBOROUGH SHOAL

Testing the waters in the wake of the ruling, Filipino fishermen tried to gain access to Scarborough Shoal, a tiny uninhabited outpost, but were blocked by China's coast guard.

Footage showed the Filipino boat being tailed by a white Chinese coast guard ship and Chinese personnel using a bullhorn to order the Filipinos to leave "this area immediately."

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang said that "if anyone challenges China's

rights and interests by taking provocative actions" based on the ruling, "China will surely make a resolute response."

The Philippines and its ally the U.S. are watching carefully how Beijing reacts to the ruling. There are concerns that China may turn Scarborough Shoal into another military outpost, but so far, all signs are that Beijing wants to keep the status quo.

Both China and the U.S. have ramped up military presence in the region. At a U.S. congressional hearing, retired Pacific commander Adm. Dennis Blair said the U.S. should be willing to use force against China in case of "aggression" at Scarborough Shoal.

According to the Navy Times, U.S. destroyers have been quietly stalking Scarborough Shoal and Beijing's man-made islands farther south in the Spratlys, but did not cross the 12-nautical-mile territorial limit.

Meanwhile, the People's Liberation Army Air Force published photos of its newest H-6K bombers flying over Scarborough Shoal. Chinese media also reported the first civilian flights to Mischief Reef and Subi Reef, two of the three locations where Beijing constructed airfields. (AP)

Former Australian leader wants nomination for UN top job

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Former Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd is making a late bid for the top United Nations job, after months of cross-crossing the world in low-key lobbying for government support.

Rudd had requested that the Australian government take the crucial step of formally nominating him to succeed U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, whose second five-year term ends Dec. 31.

Foreign Minister Julie Bishop said that decision would be made by Australia's next cabinet, which will be named Monday following July 2 elections and sworn in as early as Tuesday.

Rudd, the New York-based president of the Asia Society Policy Institute, said he understood his nomination might not be among the government's highest priorities after barely scraping back into power in unexpectedly close election.

"I respect the fact that the government has many other priorities at this time, having just been returned to office," Rudd said on his Facebook page.

"This is a matter for the prime

minister, the foreign minister and their colleagues at a time of their choosing," he said.

Rudd was elected prime minister in 2007, but was dumped by his own center-left Labor Party in 2010. He was dubbed Recycled Rudd when he regained the control of the chaotic and divided government weeks before it lost elections in 2013.

The 58-year-old has been canvassing diplomatic support around the world for months, although Bishop on Monday became the first to confirm his plans to be a candidate.

But several lawmakers in Australia's conservative government are openly hostile toward his bid.

"Kevin was never happy just running Australia—he believed he was always destined to run the world," Immigration Minister Peter Dutton said in April. "Kevin's ego makes (presumptive Republican presidential nominee) Donald Trump's look like a rounding error."

Opposition leader Bill Shorten said only petty politics would prevent the government from nominating a former political opponent.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Tainted liquor kills at least 19, blinds 6 in northern India

LUCKNOW, India (AP)—At least 19 people have died after drinking toxic bootleg liquor and another six blinded in northern India over the weekend, police said Sunday. Another 50 people fell ill after consuming the home-brewed liquor on Friday and were being treated in hospitals in Etah district in Uttar Pradesh state, said senior police officer Ajay Shankar Rai. The Press Trust of India news agency put the death toll at 21. Rai said the victims bought the liquor from a village shop on Friday evening and started falling ill and dying. The shop owner, who has been arrested, was selling a pouch of tainted liquor for mere 15 rupees (4 cents), six times cheaper than the legal drink, he said.

Emergency landing closes runway at Tokyo's Haneda airport

TOKYO (AP)—A runway has been closed at one of Tokyo's main airports after a Hawaiian Airlines jet punctured its tires while making an emergency landing. Japanese media report that eight tires blew out when the Airbus A330 returned to Haneda

Airport early Monday morning after a display indicated a problem in the hydraulic system. They say that none of the 293 passengers and crew on board were injured. The plane remained on the runway after daybreak Monday as workers replaced the tires. Japan Airlines cancelled some domestic flights, and warned of the possibility of other flight disruptions. Haneda Airport said that international flights have not been affected.

China fires 3 officials after typhoon in east killed 83

BEIJING (AP)—The Chinese government has fired three officials in an eastern province after a strong tropical storm killed 83 people and left 19 others missing, an official news agency reported Monday. Typhoon Nepartak, which had weakened to a tropical storm when it hit China, toppled nearly 10,000 houses in eastern Fujian province's capital of Fuzhou over the past week, Xinhua News Agency said. The county of Minqing was the worst hit, reporting 73 deaths and 17 missing, and widespread cuts to power and telecommunications services, the report said.

World

Families caught in painful limbo awaiting IDs of Nice dead

NICE, France (AP)—The painstaking process of identifying the victims of the Bastille Day truck attack in Nice dragged into its third day Sunday, adding to the anguish of family members caught between uncertainty and grief.

Eighty-four people were killed in the Thursday night attack on the Promenades des Anglais, which happened as they were making their way home from a waterfront fireworks display. But just 35 bodies had been identified definitively by Sunday afternoon, according to the Paris prosecutor's office.

The excruciating delay is adding to the suffering of survivors.

One family spent days canvassing hospitals and office for news of a 4-year-old boy whose mother perished, their frustration boiling over into a confrontation with a regional official. University of California, Berkeley students plastered flyers around the city asking for any information on the whereabouts of three classmates at a technology entrepreneur education program. Several imams stepped into the official breach, posting themselves outside the Pasteur Hospital on Sunday to help family members visiting the injured or looking for confirmation of their worst fears from the hospital morgue.

Syrian troops besiege rebel-held parts of Aleppo

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian government forces closed the only road leading into and out of rebel-held parts of the northern city of Aleppo on Sunday, besieging hundreds of thousands of people and giving President Bashar Assad's forces one of their biggest successes since the five-year conflict began.

Sunday's push raised fears among the city's civilian population of a humanitarian crisis as many feared food and medicine will run out in Aleppo within a short time.

The siege marks the biggest victory for the government in Aleppo since rebels captured parts of the city in the summer of 2012. Aleppo, Syria's former commercial center and the country's largest city, has been divided and contested since then.

Aleppo and its suburbs have seen intense fighting in recent months, with Syrian troops and their allies advancing with the aid of Russian airstrikes.

"It puts them in extreme angst, and extreme tension," said Brigitte Erbibou, a psychologist who has been counseling family members at center helping victims and family members.

"It's unbearable because the more the days go by, the more they suspect the (death) announcement will come. However, until it is announced, the wait is absolutely unbearable because there is no way to come to terms and to begin the work of the grieving process."

She counseled two children this weekend whose father was killed but whose mother remained missing. "The children were telling me, 'For Dad we know, but for Mom, it's unbearable.'"

Prosecutors in Paris said the identification was being carried out under an accelerated procedure established after last November's Paris attacks, using DNA or family medical records. They gave no indication of how long the process would take.

"This process is step by step, so that everything will be guaranteed the moment that the identities will be released," French health minister Marisol Touraine told reporters during a visit to Nice, where she met families at a hospital and a victims' center.

Three days after the attack, families of 12 victims were able to see the bodies for the

Earlier this year the government launched a large-scale offensive that captured much of the city's northern outskirts.

The capture of the road came as Russia and the United States, who support rival parties in the conflict, are negotiating a possible military partnership over Syria. Both countries have been trying to end the conflict in Syria, now in its sixth year.

An eventual government victory in Aleppo would be a major turning point in the conflict in favor of Assad.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said government forces and members of Lebanon's Hezbollah group reached the Castello road early Sunday, closing it and raising fears of a humanitarian crisis. Government forces reached a point where they could fire on the road earlier this month, effectively cutting it off, though some people still made the dangerous journey.



An unidentified woman lights candles to pay tribute to victims of a deadly attack during a mass at the Saint Nicolas Orthodox church in Nice, southern France, Sunday, July 17, 2016.

Officials: France truck attacker may have become radicalized

NICE, France (AP)—There is mounting evidence that Mohamed Lahouaiej Bouhlel, the Tunisian-born truck driver responsible for the deadly carnage in Nice last week, had recently absorbed extremist ideas and had become radicalized, French authorities said Sunday.

The image of a religious extremist is at odds with the portrait that neighbors and family members initially painted of a man who ignored even the most basic rules of Islam, eating pork, drinking alcohol and shunning the mosque.

Many of those who knew him said in the days after Thursday's Bastille Day attack that Bouhlel was a difficult person, describing him variously as aloof and hostile, even violent at times.

In March, he received a suspended sentence for a road-rage incident—not enough to put him on the radar of France's security services.

But officials said Sunday that the 31-year-old had apparently undergone a rapid conversion to radical Islam and carefully planned the attack that claimed the lives of at least 84 people, including 10 children, raising the question: how did a delivery driver go from petty crime to carrying out an act of mass slaughter in the space of a few months?

Hours after the Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attack Saturday, Prime Minister Manuel Valls said authorities "now know that the killer radicalized very quickly."

Neither IS nor the French

government have provided tangible evidence of a link between the group and Bouhlel. But Valls told the newspaper the Journal du Dimanche in an interview Sunday that the extremist group "is encouraging individuals unknown to our services to stage attacks."

"That is without a doubt the case in the Nice attack," said Valls, warning that "terrorism will be part of our daily lives for a long time."

While authorities have said little publicly about their investigation, a French security official told The Associated Press on Sunday that Bouhlel sold his car just before the attack, which ended only when he was killed by police.

Bouhlel rented the refrigerated truck on July 11, purchased a pistol and was seen

first time. Officials also issued the first death certificates and burial permissions.

Among those summoned was the Sahroui family, who a grief counselor said lost a mother, an 8-year-old boy, a 3-year-old girl and an uncle. In the ethnically mixed Madeleine neighborhood, three women wearing abayas—one of them the two children's sister—left for the morgue for a final identification.

The Algerian-born father remained inside as friends and neighbors made their way upstairs to pay their respects.

Yasmin Touabia, a volunteer at the victim's center, counseled them on Saturday. "They were staggered, in a state of shock. The grandmother kept repeating that her pain was not being able to bury them, that it was the wait. That if they had died at home, they could have been buried right away."

on closed-circuit TV footage visiting the promenade in the following days, according to the security official, who wasn't authorized to be publicly named speaking about an ongoing investigation.

On July 14, France's national day, Bouhlel sent text messages to people who may have been accomplices, the official said. One of those who received text messages was among eight people taken into custody after the attack. The official wouldn't comment on the content of the text messages or confirm reports that they included a request for more weapons.

At least two of the three people detained Sunday are suspected of helping Bouhlel obtain the pistol found in the truck, the official said.

123,000 Venezuelans cross border shopping for scarce food

SAN ANTONIO DEL TACHIRA, Venezuela (AP)—More than 100,000 Venezuelans, some of whom drove through the night in caravans, crossed into Colombia over the weekend to hunt for food and medicine that are in short supply at home.

It was the second weekend in a row that Venezuela's socialist government opened the long-closed border with Colombia, and by 6 a.m. Sunday, a line of would-be shoppers snaked through the entire town of San Antonio del Tachira. Some had traveled in chartered buses from

cities 10 hours away.

Venezuela's government closed all crossings a year ago to crack down on smuggling along the 1,378-mile (2,219 kilometer) border. It complained that speculators were causing shortages by buying up subsidized food and gasoline in Venezuela and taking them to Colombia, where they could be sold for far higher prices.

But shortages have continued to mount in Venezuela amid triple-digit inflation, currency controls that have restricted imports and investment and the world oil price

slump that caused a collapse in the oil revenues that fund government spending.

Although the border was heavily patrolled by Venezuelan troops, the crowds were mostly orderly amid an atmosphere of tense excitement. A few activists handed out anti-government pamphlets, looking to galvanize the frustration that has characterized food riots and long lines outside supermarkets in recent weeks.

Some of those waiting to cross made anti-government chants and sang the national anthem, but there was no ap-

petite for confrontation. They were focused on the prospect of getting at fully stocked supermarket shelves and the opportunity to buy even non-essential indulgences like nail polish and beer before the reclosing of border crossings Sunday night.

"It's kind of crazy day," said Alejandro Chacon, who owns a hardware store in the nearby town of San Cristobal and was crossing the border for the first time since the closure. "It's strange to see this, but we know we're going to find what we want in Colombia, so it's a nice difference."

Focus

By SARAH EL DEEB and
SUZAN FRASER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Crackdown following failed coup in Turkey raises concerns

ISTANBUL (AP)—Following a failed coup against Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the government moved swiftly Sunday to shore up his power and remove those perceived as an enemy, saying it has detained 6,000 people.

The crackdown targeted not only generals and soldiers, but a wide swath of the judiciary that has sometimes blocked Erdogan, raising concerns that the effort to oust him will push Turkey even further into authoritarian rule.

Friday night's sudden uprising by a faction of the military appeared to take the government—and much of the world—by surprise.

The plotters sent warplanes firing on key government installations and tanks rolling into major cities, but it ended hours later when loyal government forces regained control of the military, and civilians took to the streets in support of Erdogan. At least 294 people were killed and more than 1,400 wounded, the government said.

On Sunday, Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said the coup had failed and life has returned to normal.

"Another calamity has been thwarted," Yildirim said in Ankara after visiting state TRT television, which had been seized by soldiers supporting the coup. "However, our duty is not over. We shall rapidly conduct the cleansing operation so that they cannot again show the audacity of coming against the will of the people."

Yildirim said those involved with the failed coup "will receive every punishment they deserve." Erdogan suggested that Turkey might reinstate capital punishment, which was legally abolished in 2004 as part of the country's bid to join the European Union.

Even before the weekend chaos in Turkey, the NATO member and key Western ally in the fight against the Islamic State group had been wracked by political turmoil that critics blamed on Erdogan's increasingly heavy-handed rule. He has shaken up the government, cracked down on dissent, restricted the media and renewed fighting with Kurdish rebels.

Speaking to a large crowd of supporters in front of his Istanbul residence Sunday evening, Erdogan responded to frequent calls of "We want the death penalty!" by saying: "We hear your request. In a democracy, whatever the people want they will get."

Grief-stricken relatives in Ankara and Istanbul buried those killed in the coup attempt,



and prayers for the dead were read simultaneously at noon Sunday at Turkey's 85,000 mosques. Erdogan attended a funeral for his campaign manager Erol Olcak and his 16-year-old son, Abdullah Tayyip Olcak. The president wept and vowed to take the country forward in "unity and solidarity."

The government's announcement that 6,000 people had been detained—including three top generals and hundreds of soldiers—suggested a wide conspiracy. Observers said the scale of the crackdown, especially against the judiciary, indicated the government was taking the opportunity to further consolidate Erdogan's power.

"The factions within the military opposed to Erdogan who did this just gave him carte blanche to crack down not only on the military but on the judiciary," said Aykan Erdemir, a former lawmaker from the main opposition party and now a senior fellow at the U.S.-based Foundation for Defense of Democracies. "The coup plotters couldn't have helped Erdogan more."

The rapid suppression of the putsch was greeted by Turks across the political spectrum with opposition parties joining to condemn it. In a half-dozen cities, tens of thousands marched throughout the day after officials urged them to defend democracy and back Erdogan, Turkey's top politician for 13 years.

At nightfall, flag-waving crowds rallied in Istanbul's Taksim Square, Ankara's Kizilay Square and elsewhere.

The Yeni Safak newspaper used the headline "Traitors of the country," while the Hürriyet newspaper declared "Democracy's victory."

"Just a small group from Turkish armed forces stood up against our government ... but we, the Turkish nation, stand together and repulse it back," said Gozde Kurt, a 16-year-old student at a morning rally in Istanbul.

The failed coup and the subsequent crackdown followed moves by Erdogan to reshape both the military and the judiciary. He had indicated a shake-up of the military was imminent and had also taken steps to increase his influence over the judiciary.

This month, parliament approved a controversial bill to reform two Turkish high courts, which allows the government to dismiss hundreds of administrative and high appeals court judges and allow Erdogan to replace them with judges loyal to him. Parliament passed the bill even as authorities were grappling with a deadly triple suicide bomb attacks at Istanbul's Ataturk Airport.

The opposition had appealed the legislation to the high court unsuccessfully, but Erdogan has not yet signed it into law. Two Constitutional Court justices were among the thou-

sands of members of the judiciary it had detained Saturday.

It is not clear how the post-coup purge will affect the judiciary, how the government will move to replace the dismissed judges and prosecutors, or where the trials for those detained would be held.

The government alleged the coup conspirators were loyal to moderate U.S.-based cleric Fethullah Gulen, whom Erdogan has often accused of trying to overthrow the government.

Gulen, who lives in Saylor'sburg, Pennsylvania, espouses a philosophy that blends a mystical form of Islam with democracy. He is a former Erdogan ally turned bitter foe who has been put on trial in absentia in Turkey, where the government has labeled his movement a terrorist organization. He strongly denies the government's charges.

At a funeral in Istanbul, Erdogan vowed to "clean all state institutions of the virus" of Gulen's supporters. He also called on Washington to extradite Gulen.

At two weekend news conferences, Gulen strongly denied any role in or knowledge of the coup.

"As someone who suffered under multiple military coups during the past five decades, it is especially insulting to be accused of having any link to such an attempt," he said.

Gulen even raised the possibility the coup attempt had been staged, saying it had "all

the signs of a movie scenario," in order to purge the military of Erdogan's opponents.

In recent years, the government has moved to purge the police and judiciary of Gulen followers. The military, founded on secularist ideals, has been a staunch opponent of Gulen.

Gulen told reporters he did not fear extradition.

"This doesn't worry me at all. But I'm not going to do anything that will harm my dignity or that will go against my dignity," he said.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said the United States would entertain an extradition request for Gulen, but Turkey would have to present "legitimate evidence that withstands scrutiny." So far, officials have not offered evidence he was involved.

Ziya Meral of the Centre for Historical Analysis and Conflict Research, a civilian think tank affiliated with the British Defense Ministry, said the motives of the plotters remain unclear, but the allegations against Gulen were dubious.

"I am more inclined toward a network within the armed services who were disturbed about where Turkey is heading," she said.

The allegations will only add to the pressure on the U.S. government and signal new uncertainty in U.S.-Turkish relations.

The putsch attempt led to a temporary halt to air opera-

AP
Protesters gather in Taksim Square in Istanbul, Sunday, July 17, 2016. The Turkish government accelerated its crackdown on alleged plotters of the failed coup against President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, with the justice minister saying Sunday that 6,000 people had been detained in the investigation, including three of the country's top generals and hundreds of soldiers.

tions by the U.S.-led coalition against the Islamic State group in neighboring Syria and Iraq from Turkey's Incirlik air base, but the Pentagon said Sunday that Turkey has reopened its airspace.

A Turkish government official said that the commander of the base, Gen. Bekir Ercan Van, was among those detained.

The state-run Anadolu Agency also said authorities issued a warrant for the arrest of Erdogan's top military aide, Col. Ali Yazici, although it wasn't clear what role he may have played.

The agency said 70 generals and admirals, including former Gen. Akin Ozturk, an air Force commander, were detained. Of the generals and admirals brought before court, 11 were put under arrest as of Sunday night and the rest are awaiting processing.

Security forces arrested a group of alleged plotters who had been holding out at one of Istanbul's airports Sunday, a Turkish official said. In addition, Anadolu reported that seven people, including a colonel, were detained at an air base in the central Anatolian city of Konya.

Gen. Umit Dunda said at least 104 conspirators were among those killed, describing them as mainly officers from the air force, the military police and armored units.

Security forces rounded up 52 more military officers for alleged links to the coup. Anadolu said a detention order has been issued for 110 judges and prosecutors in Istanbul alone for alleged involvement with the group responsible for the coup.

The suspects are being charged with "membership in an armed terrorist organization" and "attempting to overthrow the government of the Turkish Republic using force and violence or attempting to completely or partially hinder its function." The agency said 58 homes of prosecutors and judges have been searched.

Officials also said 2,745 judges and prosecutors have been dismissed.

Another 149 police were detained in Ankara, according to Anadolu, citing the office of the city's governor.

Overdrive

When I hear the name Mitsubishi, I think of in-wall air conditioners. I also think about the Zero airplanes that kamikaze pilots used to deadly effect against the U.S. and its allies during World War II.

I don't necessarily think of automobiles. Which makes sense because — despite its long tenure in the U.S. market and some memorable products, such as the 3000GT and Lancer Evolution — the Japanese company has never quite snagged a significant share of the U.S. auto market. And while the company's fun stuff has garnered fawning praise from automotive cognoscenti, it hasn't won the hearts of mainstream Americans, who have two kids, a family pet and way too much lifestyle debris to haul around. And this is where the puzzle lies.

How can a company create some incredibly fun cars but then also turn around and unleash things as relentlessly ordinary as the Outlander Sport GT?

For 2016, the Outlander Sport received a front-end facelift along with revised interior furnishings. Styling is always a matter of personal preference, but this little buggy's mug isn't aesthetically pleasing, although it is distinct.

The same can't be said, however, of the overall package, which is sized right in the heart of the market with a 171.5-inch overall length and 21.7 cubic feet of cargo space.

But its 168-horsepower four-cylinder engine, continuously variable automatic transmission with front-wheel or four-wheel drive provides enough gumption and traction to ensure you get across town and through inclement weather without a second thought. And uniquely, a five-speed manual transmission is offered, as is a slightly less powerful 148-horsepower 2.0-liter four-cylinder engine. The test vehicle even had paddle shifters mounted to the steering column, allowing for manual shifting.

And while the Outlander's basic package was unchanged, its interior



The 2016 Mitsubishi Outlander Sport has a base price of \$19,595-\$29,195.

TNS

AUTO REVIEW:

2016 Mitsubishi Outlander Sport relentlessly average

By **LARRY PRINTZ**
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

appointments were updated with a new steering wheel, new seat fabrics, a 6.1-inch infotainment screen and an auto-dimming rearview mirror. The audio system provides decent sound no matter how your music finds its way through the car's processors. The cabin is acceptably quiet but not remarkably so. The seats are wide

and accommodating, providing fairly good support. Thoughtfully, the cupholders accommodate larger bottles.

But given the choice, though, I'd pick a Mitsubishi air conditioner over this car.

Open the Outlander Sport's doors and you're greeted with an aroma that, thanks to the cabin's cruel mix

of hard plastic and accountant-friendly vinyl, brings to mind a Chinese shipping container filled with cheap plastic shoes. A large glass roof enhances the cabin's spacious feel but, since it doesn't open, fries occupants.

You might be able to overlook this if the car was a stunning performer, but it isn't.

Power is adequate, but only if you put the transmission into Sport mode. Only by shifting manually can you extract any of the available fun. Leaving it in Eco mode, with its annoying Eco light going on and off, leaves you with a reluctant drivetrain that fails to excite the soul. While Sport mode seems overly excitable, Eco mode is too restrained, and a middle ground between the two isn't offered. And, typical of modern cars, there's no road feel from the electric power steering.

Handling is controlled at civilized speeds, with most bumps being adsorbed without harshness. Push it hard, though, and you'll find the engineers took their sake break. Although nimble, the Outlander Sport doesn't feel sporty due to excessive body lean in corners. There's not a scintilla of sport to justify this model's GT badge, despite the oversized paddle shifters.

There's nothing here that strays much above normal, aside from the interior's abundance of nauseating off-gassing. In a field full of excellent choices, the Mitsubishi is merely OK. And while that's not enough to not recommend it, it's not strong enough to recommend it, either.

So skip any thoughts of an Evolution turned crossover. The Outlander Sport GT is a C student and a mediocre crossover from a conglomerate that makes exceptional air conditioners.

NUTS & BOLTS

Base prices: \$19,595-\$29,195
Engine: 2.4-liter four-cylinder
Horsepower: 168
Torque: 167 pound-feet
Environmental Protection Agency fuel economy (city/highway): 22 mpg/27 mpg
Wheelbase: 105.1 inches
Length: 171.5 inches
Curb weight: 3,109-3,285 pounds
Cargo capacity: 21.7-49.5 cubic feet
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration safety rating: Not rated

Under the Hood: Loud wheel? Get some premium brake pads

By **BRAD BERGHOLDT**
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q I have a 2009 Lincoln MKX. One of its right wheels has been squeaking badly for a long time.

I've taken it to a Ford dealer repair shop four times. The first time, they blew some dust from it and said it was all set. Not so. I took it back, but they couldn't find anything. I took it back again, and they greased it or something. But that still didn't help.

It sounds like it needs brake shoes, but of course, the shop doesn't do that anymore.

By the way, the wheel only squeaks when going backward.

After my earlier trips, I took it to a different Ford place, and they filed the pads and turned the rotors. They promised the problem would be solved. Yet the very next day, the wheel was back at it, al-

beit not as bad.

My loud wheel really draws some attention on the road. Can you help me?

— **Bess F.**

A Bess, I agree with your prognosis. The front brake pads should be replaced with a premium-level product that promotes quiet operation.

In my opinion, the existing pads are acting up for one of the following reasons: They're glazed from high-temperature operation, they're of inferior quality, or they were engineered for endurance rather than quiet operation.

While Ford original equipment pads are good, there are aftermarket pads that exceed them in performance and are designed to operate quietly. I checked RockAuto.com and found 30 different front brake pads to choose from.

Perhaps your dealer will take an-

other stab at the repair by renewing the pads with no labor charge. After all, they promised! They'll probably not be keen on installing aftermarket or customer-supplied parts, so you might need to go with their original equipment pads.

Another option is finding an independent shop that does a lot of brakes and going with their recommendation for a premium set of pads.

Rotor surface finish is really important. Even though your pads were just machined, it's possible that turning left them rough. Most good pads come with insulating shims, which help isolate the pad from the caliper and piston. On shim-free pads, an application of CRC Disc Brake Quiet (an orange, glue-like substance) is a good method to minimize noise.

Q While recently replacing the front brake pads on one of our cars, a 2007 Nissan Altima S, I no-

ticed an old oil leak on the passenger-side strut. It didn't look like a recent leak as oil was not continuing to drip and the top half of the strut, where the oil had leaked, was covered in dust. The car drives fine, and a bounce test performed on each side seemed to produce the same response. Should I replace the strut? If I do, should I replace the driver's side as well? Also, do you have any recommendations on a good, inexpensive aftermarket brand? And lastly, should I get the wheels aligned?

— **Gary**

A It's hard to say how much fluid was actually lost from the previously leaking strut, and the bounce test doesn't really work on modern cars like it did years ago.

Most modern shocks and struts contain multiple valves, each regulating a certain type of motion. A bounce test, at most, will infer only

that one type of valve seems to be working.

Symptoms of worn or defective shocks or struts include excessive body roll, acceleration squat, traction loss on washboard surfaces, ride harshness and braking nose dive.

If the struts have more than 50,000 miles on them, they're candidates for replacement. My personal favorite is KYB, although other brands are certainly competitive.

Checking wheel alignment is recommended as the strut is a suspension member and the replacement part you choose could differ slightly in dimensional layout. Think of it as insurance for good tire life.

ABOUT THE WRITER

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at [under-the-hood\(at\)earthlink.net](mailto:under-the-hood(at)earthlink.net); he cannot make personal replies.

Life & Style

Taylor Swift defends herself in latest salvo in Kanye battle

It's Taylor vs. Kanye, part 242, with a dash of Kim Kardashian.

West's famous wife stirred the pot of beef between Taylor Swift and Kanye West on Sunday, when on Snapchat, she posted video of a phone call between the rapper and pop superstar about his song "Famous," in which he rapped: "I feel like me and Taylor might still have sex, Why? I made that bitch famous."

Upon its release in February, West was condemned by many for the line. He insisted that Swift had given her blessing to the lyric, but she denied ever hearing the lyric.

On Twitter on Sunday, Kardashian teased: "Do u guys follow me on snap chat? u really should ;-)"

Then, she unleashed a series of Snapchat videos that threatened to break the Internet.

On them, a smiling West tells Swift that he's working on a song and wants to use the lyric: "I feel like me and Taylor might still have sex."

In response, Swift is heard saying she worries about overexposure, but West says the lyric would be good exposure. In the end, she ap-

pears to give her blessing.

"It's like a compliment," she says. "I really appreciate you telling me about it, that's really nice."

"I just had a responsibility to you as a friend. Thanks for being so cool about it," he responds.

Swift also is heard saying that it's a tongue-in-cheek line anyway, and that she would let people know she knew about it in advance. She also says, "I'm always going to respect you."

But when the song came out, the entire line was: "I feel like me and Taylor might still have sex, Why? I made that bitch famous." In a statement released at the time, Swift's rep said: "Kanye did not call for approval, but to ask Taylor to release his single 'Famous' on her Twitter account. ... She declined and cautioned him about releasing a song with such a strong misogynistic message. Taylor was never made aware of the actual lyric."

Many on social media took glee in the leaked audio recordings on Sunday, and suggested that it proved Swift had lied. But in an Instagram post, Swift said that the audio actually proved that she had

In this May 10, 2016 file photo, Taylor Swift accepts the BMI Taylor Swift Award at the 64th annual BMI Pop Awards at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

AP



never approved the use of the word "bitch."

"Where is the video of Kanye telling me he was going to call me 'that bitch' in his song? It doesn't exist because it never happened. You don't get to control someone's emotional response to being called 'that bitch' in

front of the entire world.

"Of course I wanted to like the song. I wanted to believe Kanye when he told me that I would love the song. I wanted us to have a friendly relationship. He promised to play the song for me, but he never did. While I wanted to be supportive of Kanye on the phone

call, you cannot 'approve' a song you haven't heard. Being falsely painted as a liar when I was never given the full story or played any part of the song is character assassination."

This is the latest chapter in a long feud between the pair that now dates back seven years, when West took the stage as

a then 19-year-old Swift beat Beyonce for an MTV Video Music Award. West came on stage as Swift was accepting her award and said, "Yo Taylor, I'm really happy for you, I'mma let you finish, but Beyonce had one of the best videos of all time!"

The infamous moment cast West as a villain, and damaged his image; Swift, already a multiplatinum star, went on to more fame. The feud continued for years, but the pair made up last year, with West, Kardashian and Swift publicly trading hugs and smiles in public.

Cut to earlier this year, when "Famous" was released, the feud was back on, and Swift even took a dig at West when she accepted her Grammy for album of the year for "1989": "There will be people along the way that will try to undercut your success or take credit for your accomplishments or your fame."

In her Instagram post Sunday, Swift seemed as weary of the public battle as many in the public have become: "I would very much like to be excluded from this narrative, one that I have never asked to be a part of, since 2009." (AP)

'Ghostbusters' holds its own, but 'Life of Pets' still No. 1

NEW YORK (AP)—After months of prerelease debate, Sony Picture's female-led "Ghostbusters" reboot arrived in theaters as neither a massive success nor the bomb some predicted, as the much-scrutinized film opened with an estimated \$46 million in North American theaters, second to the holdover hit "The Secret Life of Pets."

"The Secret Life of Pets" stayed on top with \$50.6 million in its second week, according to studio estimates Sunday.

But all eyes were on Paul Feig's "Ghostbusters," which resurrects the 1984 original with a cast of Melissa McCarthy, Kristen Wiig, Leslie Jones and Kate McKinnon. Sony, noting it was the best opening for a live-action comedy in more than a year, called the result "a triumph." Audiences, which broke down 46 percent male and 54 percent female, gave it a solid B-plus CinemaScore.

"There was a lot of scrutiny on the film going up to release, but the movie in the opening delivered," said Josh Greenstein, president of marketing and distribution for Sony. "We've successfully re-



AP

In this image released by Sony Pictures, from left, Leslie Jones, Melissa McCarthy, Kristen Wiig and Kate McKinnon appear in a scene from the film, "Ghostbusters," opening nationwide on July 15.

started a very important brand and we're just ecstatic at the results."

Yet given its hefty price tag—the film cost \$144 million to make, after rebates, plus more than \$100 million to market—it's a relatively tepid start for "Ghostbusters" that will put pressure on the film to perform well overseas. And that could be a challenge in some territories that don't have the same familiarity with the original "Ghostbusters" films. It began with \$19.1 million internationally.

A release in China, the

world's second-largest film market, is also in question. China has regulations against depictions of the supernatural in movies. Greenstein said Sony will submit the film for release "and we'll see if we get accepted or not."

Among new releases, "Ghostbusters" had the weekend largely to itself. The true-story crime drama "The Infiltrator," starring Bryan Cranston, supplied a counter-programming option from the usual summer fare, and took in \$5.3 million. Woody Allen's 1930s Hollywood dra-

ma "Cafe Society" opened in limited release with \$355,000 in five theaters.

For Sony, the stakes for "Ghostbusters" were extremely high. Greenlit by the since-departed Amy Pascal, the film is intended to kick off several future "Ghostbusters" installments.

Aspirations for more "Ghostbusters" sequels had long languished largely because of the continued disinterest of original star Bill Murray. But Feig, who has found critical raves and strong box office for female-starring comedies

like "Bridesmaids," "The Heat" and "Spy," won over the studio and the movies' creators with his idea to reboot around McCarthy and Wiig.

But the film found plenty of detractors, including even Donald Trump. Some fans objected to the gender switch, others complained that the first trailer was subpar and some even fretted that any new incarnation of the comedy classic (one of the biggest box office hits of the 1980s) would tarnish their fragile memories.

Feig's "Ghostbusters" had the vocal support of director Ivan Reitman (a producer on the reboot) and Murray, who makes a cameo in the film. Critics were largely mixed on the movie, which scored a 73 percent "fresh" rating on Rotten Tomatoes.

Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for comScore, called the weekend performance "a solid and expected result."

"There was all this hoopla and all this chatter about the movie and now it's opened and it did just fine," said Dergarabedian. "I don't think there's a referendum on whether or not an all-female cast in a movie has an impact. If people like the concept and the cast, they're going to go see the movie."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final three-day domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. "The Secret Life of Pets," \$50.6 million (\$4.4 million international).
2. "Ghostbusters," \$46 million (\$19.1 million international).
3. "The Legend of Tarzan," \$11.1 million (\$22 million international).
4. "Finding Dory," \$11 million (\$36.5 million international).
5. "Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates," \$7.5 million (\$2.1 million international).
6. "The Purge: Election Year," \$6.1 million (\$3.6 million international).
7. "Central Intelligence," \$5.3 million (\$10 million international).
8. "The Infiltrator," \$5.3 million.
9. "The BFG," \$3.7 million (\$2.9 million international).
10. "Independence Day: Resurgence," \$3.5 million (\$16.2 million international).

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to comScore:

1. "Ice Age: Collision Course," \$53.5 million.
2. "Finding Dory," \$36.5 million.
3. "The Legend of Tarzan," \$22 million.
4. "Ghostbusters," \$19.1 million.
5. "Cold War 2," \$17.3 million.
6. "Independence Day: Resurgence," \$16.2 million.
7. "When Larry Met Mary," \$15 million.
8. "Big Fish and Chinese Flowering Crabapple," \$14.3 million.
9. "Now You See Me 2," \$12.4 million.
10. "Central Intelligence," \$10 million.

Beyonce, Adele earn Emmy nominations for music specials

NEW YORK (AP)—Beyonce and Adele's new music are sure to earn multiple Grammy nominations, but before that they are celebrating with Emmy nominations.

Beyonce earned two nominations, as an executive producer and co-director of HBO's "Lemonade," while Adele earned a nomination as executive producer of NBC's "Adele Live In New York City." Both specials earned a total of four nominations each.

Beyonce and Adele's programs are nominated for outstanding variety special, where both singers earned nominations as executive producers.

Beyonce's "Lemonade" was an album accompanied with an HBO special featuring music videos for each track. The singer is nominated for outstanding direct-



ing for a variety special with "Lemonade," which she shares with co-director Kahlil Joseph, while "Lemonade" is also up for outstanding pic-

ture editing for a variety special and production design for a variety, nonfiction, event or award special.

Adele's special aired last

year from Radio City Music Hall and featured live performances of songs from her earth-shattering comeback album, "25." It will also

^{AP}
Beyonce performs during the Formation World Tour at Amsterdam ArenA on Saturday, July 16, 2016 in Amsterdam.

compete for outstanding directing for a variety special; lighting direction for a variety special; and technical direction, camerawork, video control for a limited series,

movie or special.

Other nominees competing for outstanding variety special alongside Beyonce and Adele include "The Late Late Show Carpool Karaoke Prime Time Special" (CBS); "The Kennedy Center Honors" (CBS); and "Amy Schumer: Live at the Apollo" (HBO), which was directed by actor Chris Rock.

Tommy Hilfiger's SUV stolen; cops in tony town warn drivers

GREENWICH, Conn. (AP)—Police in a wealthy Connecticut town are urging residents not to leave their keys inside their vehicles after a rash of Range Rover thefts.

Fashion designer Tommy Hilfiger is among the Greenwich residents who have had their Range Rovers stolen in recent months. Hilfiger was targeted in late June.

Police Lt. Kraig Gray says

the theft from Hilfiger's mansion fit the pattern of several other cases in which keys were left inside unlocked, unattended vehicles.

Gray says Range Rovers and other vehicles have been stolen from driveways and also from public parking spots in the town center.

The New York City suburb is one of the region's most affluent towns.

Coldplay kicks off stadium tour with colorful show

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—Coldplay kicked off its U.S. stadium tour with a colorful show that included fireworks, confetti and balloons, mixed with American pride, sympathy for France, moving words from Muhammad Ali and audio from President Barack Obama.

The British foursome led by Chris Martin performed for feverish fans Saturday at the MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey. They started their two-hour show on a bright, high note—jamming onstage as fireworks burst to the sky—matching the glowing, multicolored wristbands fans received walking into the venue.

Martin worked the stage playfully throughout the night:



He ran up the long aisle enthusiastically, rolled on the floor like a child, rocked on the guitar and crooned on the piano.

He held the American flag at one point while the audience roared, later putting it in

his back pocket and keeping it there throughout the band's electrifying set, which included songs such as "Yellow," "Speed of Sound," "Viva la Vida" and "Fix You."

Martin even joked that he and

^{AP}
Chris Martin from the band Coldplay performs at MetLife Stadium on Saturday, July 16, 2016, in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

his band mates—Jonny Buckland, Guy Berryman and Will Champion—may be moving to the U.S. following Britain's vote to exit the European Union.

"We'll probably be refugees here at some point," he said.

Though most of Coldplay's concert played like a lively dance party, there were serious moments onstage, too. They played audio of Obama famously singing "Amazing Grace" and showed video of the late Ali offering wise words during a 1977 interview in England.



^{AP}
In a Monday, Feb. 15, 2016 file photo, designer Tommy Hilfiger acknowledges the audience after his Fall 2016 collection show during Fashion Week, in New York.

Story of son's abuse taints wife's memories of husband

DEAR ABBY: I am in shock. My grown son, "Ryan," recently told me he was molested by his late father when he was a young boy. I had no idea, but I believe him. Ryan is an only child and has recently started seeing a counselor.

I loved my husband very much and I believed he loved me, but I no longer know what to think or how to feel. If he were still alive, I would most likely leave him. But what do I do with more than 40 years of mostly good memories? When I think about my late husband now, I just feel numb. Please help.

NOT A CLUE IN INDIANA

DEAR NOT A CLUE: That your son didn't tell you sooner, while you could have intervened, is regrettable. And that he is now seeing a counselor about it is laudable—you should give him all the love and support you can. I don't blame you for having mixed emotions, but at this point it is too late for you to change anything. Hang onto the good memories and let them comfort you, because you can't change history.

DEAR ABBY: I saw myself in the Jan. 15 letter from "Diana in San Diego," the lifelong compulsive nail biter who wants to stop. I was diagnosed with trichotillomania (hair pulling and skin picking) three years ago, and it is closely related to nail biting. The trichotillomania learning center website, www.trich.org,

is worth checking out for treatment options such as medications, behavioral therapy and support groups.

ERICA IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR ERICA: Thank you for the information. I received a deluge of helpful, caring responses to Diana's letter, and several readers mentioned trichotillomania in the more severe cases. Some had taken my advice to keep an emery board and cuticle scissors nearby a step further, by learning to do a full manicure and suggested she paint her nails a dark or bright color to help her stop biting.

Buffing was mentioned as a way to smooth imperfections that could be "triggers." A reader in Virginia added decorations to her nails—decals, stencils and rhinestones—that served as an impediment and cured her of the habit.

Other readers have used artificial (acrylic) nails as a way to allow their natural fingernails to grow out. James in Delaware helped his ashamed then-fiancee hide her bitten-off, stubby nails when showing off her engagement ring by suggesting she put on artificial ones. While she proudly showed off the ring to everyone, her own nails grew out beautifully and she never chewed them again.

Additional growing-out tips mentioned by readers were: coating the nails with a hardening solution, keeping the cuticles moist with petroleum jelly, cuticle cream -- even lip balm. A reader reassured Diana that there are indeed "bad-

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

tasting" products that successfully work as a deterrent.

Keeping the hands busy has helped many readers. Breaking off a corner of one of her front teeth stopped Pat in Texas. Others found addressing a vitamin deficiency did the trick for them. Wearing a tight rubber band around the wrist to snap when the urge hits can give a nail-biter the incentive to stop. And from Sandi in San Francisco: "A teacher showed me an enlarged picture taken from a microscope of what was under fingernails. Now I don't even think about biting!"

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

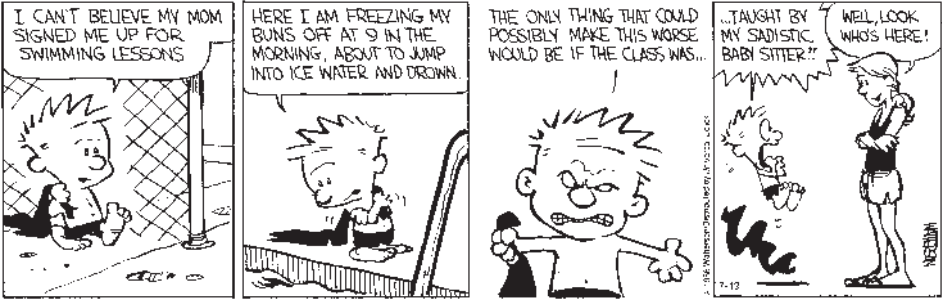
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

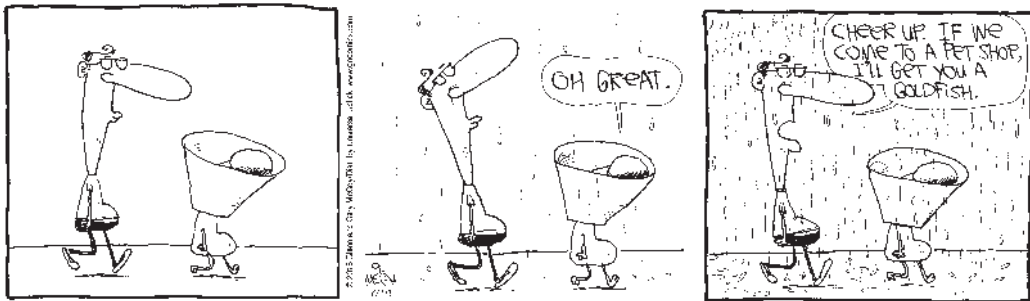


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Hefty horn

5 Recipe abbr.

8 Film, in France

12 "— on first?"

13 Carte lead-in

14 Shortly

15 Charged bits

16 Herb used in salsa

18 Math-ematical proposition

20 Weavers' machines

21 Trench

22 Thither

23 Rich cake

26 Address for

30 Shock partner

31 Fine, to NASA

32 Not 'neath

33 Kind of fertilization

36 Pie fruit

38 Jewel

39 — Dhabi

40 Boat-swain, casually

43 "P is for Peril" author

47 Southern California city

49 Top choice, for short

50 Big fusses

51 Badly lit

52 Rainbow

53 Kitten calls

54 Hot tub

55 Auction signals

2 "Oops!"

3 Dog biscuit

4 Order by

5 "Be silent," in scores

6 Slender

7 Chum

8 Church laws

9 Gung-ho about

10 Standard

11 Seth's son

17 Skin soother

19 Wish undone

22 Tibetan bovine

23 — chi

24 Possess engine

25 Gun the

26 Cattle call?

27 Surpass

28 Seminary subj.

29 Raw rock

31 Branch

34 "Reckon so"

35 Nash-ville's st.

36 Lawyers' org.

37 Diving bird

39 Bakery lure

40 Smile broadly

41 Shoppe description

42 Garbage barge

43 Clench

44 Poi base

45 "Meta-morphoses" poet

46 Legend-ary loch

48 QBs' goals

Solution time: 22 mins.

Yesterdays answer 7-19

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Trai Byers, 33; Anthony Edwards, 54; Campbell Scott, 55; Brian May, 69.

Happy Birthday: You'll end up in the middle of this year's big events. Be on your toes and ready to take charge. Make a difference and don't be afraid to take credit for your work. Adapt to change and turn any lemons you are handed into lemonade. Learn as you go and you will impress others with your ability to adapt. Your numbers are 8, 14, 24, 28, 31, 34, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take action instead of ignoring the obvious. You can make positive change if you offer suggestions that benefit everyone. Delegate work fairly and offer incentives that will ensure you get things done on time. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Sift through your belongings to see if there is anything you can donate or offer to someone in need. Give to a cause or work alongside others at improving your community. An emotional plea will bring good results. *****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Talking about what you want to do and actually doing it is not the same thing. Making a big deal out of something that isn't all that important will hold you back. Accomplish what you set out to do and celebrate. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't take sides or you will be faced with opposition. Use your energy to make personal improvements, not to change others. Be reasonable when discussing partnerships and delegating

responsibilities. The more accommodating you are, the more you will gain in return. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can make a favorable change to the way you do things. Sign up for events or activities that will challenge you mentally and physically. You will discover something you enjoy and make a positive career change. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep your job and personal relationships in perspective. Nothing is ever perfect, but with discipline and hard work, you can find personal success. Express your feelings and follow through with your plans. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep your distance from someone who is insensitive to you and your needs. Look for ways to build your confidence and strengthen your ties with people who are supportive. A new look will boost your morale and encourage romance. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Being open to suggestions is fine, but don't let anyone convince you to get involved in something that will detract from your own plans and goals. Follow your creative imagination and put passion into a project you feel is worthwhile. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): If you decide to show off, make sure you have the goods to back up your bragging. Not everyone will be kind if you don't do a good job. Aim to please, not to disappoint. Romance will make a difference. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Concentrate on what you want to do and visualize the results you are looking for. Your ability to wheel and deal will put you in a winning position. An energetic approach will help you finish what you start. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Refuse to let anyone pressure you into a poor choice. Less time spent arguing and more time actually solving your dilemmas will make you look and feel better. Make it clear that you want to solve problems instead of create them. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You have more options than you realize. A chance to use your skills in new and different ways will help you convince others to take a serious look at what you have to offer. A partnership looks promising. ****

Birthday Baby: You are steadfast and dedicated. You are strong and in control.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

5 2 8 4

4 3 6 1 7 2

3 6 5 9 1

7 8 2 4 5

1 1 6 4 5

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6 9 5 3 2 7 4 1 8

4 3 2 1 8 5 9 6 7

1 8 7 9 6 4 2 5 3

7 1 4 6 3 9 5 8 2

3 2 9 5 7 8 6 4 1

8 5 6 4 1 2 7 3 9

9 7 1 8 5 6 3 2 4

5 4 3 2 9 1 8 7 6

2 6 8 7 4 3 1 9 5

Difficulty Level ★★ 7/19

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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

SLEEPING IN NEW BED SHEETS Solution: 4 letters

T G D E G I E B S R E N R O C

E N O T T O G L O M O T T O B

L I U R E D N U F G P I M A A

R D B O D U V E T P N F C S M

E D L L C A N O P Y O I A Y B

V E E O A D M I C R O T K F O

O B T W I N A A T Z I L R C O

C D S H E A K E H N I E S I T

O E D H T A R E R S S L B R E

V T N S U O R E T H E Y U B T

E T E P A T O Y B E T N N A I

R I L R G T E M P M D H K F H

S F B E U F E Y S L U M R A W

C L E A N I N E E U Q L N O D

E Z O D S L P I N K R E S T W

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Bamboo, Bedding, Beige, Blanket, Blends, Blue, Bottom, Bunk, Canopy, Clean, Comforter, Corners, Cotton, Count, Coverlet, Covers, Double, Doze, Duvet, Fabric, Fitted, Fresh, King, Lift, Micro, Nod, Pima, Pink, Queen, Rest, Sateen, Satin, Sham, Shuteye, Siesta, Silky, Sleepy, Slumber, Smooth, Snug, Soft, Spread, Thread, Throw, Top, Trundle, Twin, Under, Warm, Weary, White

Yesterday's Answer: Waxed

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 or 47, order online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Stenson, Mickelson forever linked after epic Open duel

TROON, Scotland (AP)—They walked off the 18th green together, arms wrapped around each other, forever linked by one of golf's greatest duels.

Henrik Stenson and Phil Mickelson. No losers here, but only one winner.

Stenson claimed the claret jug, a major champion for the first time at age 40. All it took was 10 birdies and a magnificent 8-under 63 in the closing round of the British Open.

Right on his heels, almost to the very end, was Mickelson. Lefty shot a bogey-free 65, good enough to win on just about any Sunday but this one, another runner-up finish in a major providing little consolation.

"I'm happy for Henrik," said Mickelson, who finished three shots behind Stenson's record score for a major championship. "I knew that he would ultimately come through and win. I'm disappointed that it was at my expense."

This was a shot-for-shot showdown that mirrored Tom Watson and Jack Nicklaus at Turnberry in 1977, the famed "Duel in the Sun."

Maybe it was a sign when the sun popped out from behind the clouds for the first time in three days at Royal Troon just as Stenson and Mickelson walked to the first tee.

"I knew he wasn't going to back down at any point,"



said Stenson, whose 20-under 264 beat the scoring mark of 265 that David Toms set at the 2001 PGA Championship and was three shots better than anyone had ever shot in the Open. "I knew I had to keep

on pushing, keep on giving myself birdie chances."

For Mickelson, there was no second-guessing the way he played. This wasn't another Winged Foot, where his silly decision to go with a driver off

the tee at the 72nd hole cost him the U.S. Open in 2007. But it was still a runner-up finish in a major, the 11th of his career, his extensive list of close calls surpassed only by Nicklaus' 19.

Mickelson knew there wasn't much more he could do. Still, this one hurt just as much as the rest of them.

In a way, maybe even a little more.

"It's probably the best I've played and not won," Mickelson said. "I don't have a point where I can look back and say, 'I should have done that' or 'Had I only done this.' I played a bogey-free round of 65 on the final round of a major. Usually that's good enough to do it. And I got beat."

At 46, Mickelson knows his window of opportunity is beginning to close.

He would've been the oldest winner of the Open since 1867. No one older than 48 has ever captured a major.

"I played what I feel was well enough to win this championship by a number of strokes, and yet I got beat by three strokes," he said. "You know, it's not like I have decades left of opportunities to win majors, so each one means a lot to me. And I put in my best performance today. Played close to flawless golf and got beat."

Stenson has long been one of the better players on the PGA Tour, but he'd never been in the final group of a major before this one.

He looked like he'd done it all before. Many times, in fact.

"It's not something you want to run around and shout, but I felt like this was going to be my turn," Stenson said.

Even with a couple of three-putt bogeys and a 5-foot birdie

Phil Mickelson of the United States, left congratulates Henrik Stenson of Sweden for winning the British Open Golf Championships at the Royal Troon Golf Club in Troon, Scotland, Sunday, July 17, 2016.



attempt that slid by the cup at 17, Stenson became only the second player to close with a 63 in the final round of a major. Johnny Miller did it first in 1973, rallying from six shots down to capture the U.S. Open by a single stroke.

This one was more like the 39-year-old showdown between Watson and Nicklaus at another course in the British Open rotation, the one 25 miles down the Scottish coastline. Watson's 65 was just enough for a one-stroke victory against Nicklaus' 66, with the next-closest player another 10 shots back. On Sunday, J.B. Holmes finished third, 11 shots behind the runner-up.

"I thought we played great and had a wonderful match," Nicklaus wrote on his Facebook page, remembering Turnberry. "Our final round was really good, but theirs was even better. What a great match."

Stenson began the day with a one-stroke lead. Neither player could push the margin any higher than that until they got to the 15th, the Swede again up by a shot after rolling in an 18-foot birdie the previous hole.

Mickelson had the edge, putting his approach on the green, about 30 feet from the flag. Stenson's second shot rolled off the right side of the green, leaving him with a 50-foot putt up the ridge.

Stenson made his. Mickelson didn't.

That was the decisive blow.

"We both played some great golf," Stenson said. "It makes it even more special to beat a competitor like Phil. He's been one of the best to play the game, certainly in the last 20 years."

Now it's on to the PGA Championship in less than two weeks, the schedule compressed because of the Olympics.

For Mickelson, it's a chance to get over the sting of such a bitter defeat. He won the PGA the last time it was played at Baltustol in 2005.

For Stenson, it's a chance to quickly add another major to the one he waited so long to get.

"We're only getting started, aren't we?" he said, a newfound confidence in his voice. "You never know once you open the floodgates what might happen."

Cousins to play with franchise tag, no deal with Redskins



WASHINGTON (AP)—Kirk Cousins will play next season on the franchise tag after the quarterback and Washington Redskins were unable to agree on a long-term contract.

The team confirmed it did not reach a deal with Cousins before Friday's 4 p.m. ET deadline for franchise players to sign new contracts.

Cousins will earn \$19.95 million in 2016. He'll be the first quarterback to play a season on the franchise tag since Drew Brees with the San Diego Chargers in 2005.

The 27-year-old Cousins started all 16 regular-season games for the Redskins last season, throwing for 4,166 yards and 29 touchdowns with 11 interceptions last season. In 30 career NFL games, the 2012 fourth-round pick has thrown 47 touchdowns and 30 interceptions.

Cousins and the Redskins not agreeing long term was not surprising given that he has only been an NFL starter for one full season after usurping Robert Griffin III. Griffin was released this

offseason and signed by the Cleveland Browns.

The Redskins are unquestionably Cousins' team next season with backup Colt McCoy and sixth-round pick Nate Sudfeld behind him on the depth chart. General manager Scot McCloughan said he wanted Cousins around for a long time but didn't want to "force it."

"He's our leader on offense, he's our quarterback," McCloughan said in May. "He won the (NFC) East last year and that's pretty cool because that's what we need here. We need those types of guys, and those are the kinds of guys I'm trying to draft, but also, we can't go crazy because it's about 53, it's not about one."

Cousins said multiple times during the offseason that he wasn't worried about negotiations. At minicamp last month the Michigan State product said if the deadline came and went, "let's just go play football and we'll see you on the other side."

Quarterbacks coach Matt Cavanaugh doesn't think Cousins will be affected by the contract situation.

"I coach, and I want him to

play well and that's what he wants," Cavanaugh said. "He just wants to play football and he figures the rest of it will take care of itself, and that's how I look at it."

In New York, After months of frustration and uncertainty, Muhammad Wilkerson got the long-term contract he believed he deserved.

The New York Jets pulled off a last-minute stunner, signing the Pro Bowl defensive end to a five-year extension and beating Friday's deadline after which Wilkerson would have had to play this season under the franchise tag amount of \$15.7 million.

The deal is worth more than \$85 million, including \$37 million in guarantees through the first two years, according to a person familiar with the contract. Through three years of the deal, Wilkerson will be paid \$54 million in guaranteed money, added the person who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the team does not announce financial terms of contracts.

The 26-year-old Wilkerson had a career-high 12 sacks last season and was selected for

his first Pro Bowl, but was unable to play after breaking his right leg in the season finale at Buffalo. The 2011 first-round draft pick had said this offseason he was disappointed at not receiving a new deal from the Jets, who instead placed the franchise tag on him.

It appeared the sides would not be able to reach an agreement before the deadline at 4 p.m. EDT, when franchised players had to sign new contracts or be forced to wait to renegotiate until next offseason.

But just as many fans began to take to social media, upset at a deal not getting done, the Jets announced on Twitter that they had signed Wilkerson to a multiyear contract. For good measure, they added a photo of Wilkerson signing his new deal. In a short video posted by the team, Wilkerson said it was for five years.

"I give my all every Sunday on the field and play with so much love and passion for the game," Wilkerson wrote on Twitter. "I'm thankful for everything that comes my way and proud to say I'm back on the green and white for a few more years."

Jackson takes no-no into 7th, Padres sweep Giants



SAN DIEGO
(AP)—After 7,582 games

since 1969, the San Diego Padres still don't have a no-hitter.

Edwin Jackson, of all pitchers, was the latest to try to pitch an elusive gem - in his Padres debut, no less.

Jackson held San Francisco hitless until Conor Gillaspie's three-run homer with one out in the seventh inning, and the Padres held off the Giants 5-3 on Sunday for their first sweep of the season. They beat Johnny Cueto, who also was the losing pitcher in the All-Star Game at Petco Park on Tuesday night.

Jackson, making his first start since 2014, and three relievers combined on a two-hitter against the Giants, who despite losing three straight still have the best record in the majors at 57-36.

"It's great to be here," said Jackson, who's with his 11th big league team. "Somewhat of an interesting day to say the least. ... It was definitely a good way to have everything kicked off with a new team. I've been through a lot of ups and a lot of downs. I believe in what I can do. I've always believed in what I can do. It's just a matter of going out and proving it once you get in between the lines."

After striking out Brandon Crawford to open the seventh, Jackson bobbled Gregor Blanco's grounder for an error and then walked Ramiro Pena before Gillaspie homered deep into the seats in right field on a 3-1 fastball. That cut the Padres' lead to 4-3.

"It felt good," Gillaspie said. "I wish we could have mustered a few more runs there at the end. All you can do is compete and give it everything you've got."

Jackson (1-1) was then pulled. He walked five, struck out four and threw 90 pitches.

Pirates 2, Nationals 1

In Washington, Starling Marte hit a solo home run in the 18th inning and the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Nationals in a marathon game that lasted almost six hours.

Pinch-hitter Daniel Murphy homered with two outs in the ninth inning for Washington, and it took a long while until anyone scored again.

Marte's seventh home run of the season helped end the series finale and the Pirates avoid getting swept by the NL East leaders. The only longer game in the majors this season came July 1 when Cleveland beat Toronto in 19 innings.

Mets 5, Phillies 0

In Philadelphia, Jacob de-



San Diego Padres starter Edwin Jackson throws against the San Francisco Giants in the first inning of a baseball game Sunday, July 17, 2016, in San Diego.

Grom tossed a one-hitter, Curtis Granderson and Asdrubal Cabrera homered and New York beat Philadelphia.

DeGrom (6-4) allowed only a third-inning single to pitcher Zach Eflin and retired 27 of 29 batters. The lanky right-hander struck out seven, walked one and went the distance for the first time in 68 career starts.

Yankees 3, Red Sox 1

In New York, Masahiro Tanaka outpitched David Price in their first matchup to win his fourth straight decision, and New York ended Boston's six-game winning streak.

Starlin Castro keyed New York's three-run fourth inning with an RBI double that scored Didi Gregorius from first base. No. 9 batter Austin Romine and Jacoby Ellsbury each added a run-scoring single with two outs off Price (9-7), who gave up 11 hits in 5 2/3 innings as the Yankees prevented a three-game sweep.

Marlins 6, Cardinals 3

In St. Louis, Ichiro Suzuki doubled, singled twice and had another hit taken away on a replay challenge, leaving him six shy of 3,000, after Miami's win over St. Louis.

The 42-year-old Suzuki made just his second start this month with All-Star Marcell Ozuna getting a day off.

Rangers 4, Cubs 1

In Chicago, Cole Hamels pitched eight dominant innings in his first game at Wrigley Field since throwing a no-hitter at the famed ballpark a year ago, and Texas stopped a four-game slide.

Hamels (10-2) struck out his first six batters. He fanned seven overall and gave up just an unearned run and four hits.

Reds 1, Brewers 0

In Cincinnati, Billy Hamilton dashed home on All-Star Jonathan Lucroy's passed ball with two outs in the ninth inning, giving Cincinnati the win.

The speedy Hamilton drew a two-out walk from Tyler Thornburgh (3-3). Left-hander Will Smith relieved and walked Joey Votto. Hamilton stole third with Jay Bruce hitting, setting up the game-winning play.

Tigers 4, Royals 2

In Detroit, Jarrod Saltalamacchia hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth inning to

lift Detroit past Kansas City.

After Tyler Collins hit a leadoff single in the ninth, Saltalamacchia won it with a drive off Joakim Soria (3-4) that easily cleared the wall in right field.

Rays 5, Orioles 2

In St. Petersburg, Evan Longoria homered twice, Jake Odorizzi picked up his first home victory this season and Tampa Bay won for just the fourth time in 28 games.

Longoria had solo shots in both the first and eighth innings. He has 21 homers this season after his 17th career multihomer game.

Braves 1, Rockies 0

In Atlanta, Chase d'Arnaud singled with two outs in the ninth inning off Gonzalez

Germen and Atlanta avoided a three-game sweep.

It was a rare home victory for the Braves, who are 14-36 at Turner Field and have baseball's worst overall record. Atlanta had lost four straight to Colorado.

Indians 6, Twins 1

In Minneapolis, Josh Tomlin pitched 7 2/3 strong innings, Mike Napoli hit one of three Cleveland homers in a win over Minnesota.

Chris Gimenez had two RBI off the bench as the division-leading Indians won for just the third time in eight games.

Angels 8, White Sox 1

In Anaheim, Albert Pujols hit a pair of two-run homers, Jered Weaver pitched seven strong innings and Los An-

geles completed an emphatic three-game sweep of Chicago.

Pujols connected in the first and fourth innings of his 53rd multi-homer game. He has 577 career homers as he pursues Mark McGwire (583) for 10th place on baseball's career list.

Astros 8, Mariners 1

In Seattle, Jose Altuve homered among his four hits and drove in three runs, Collin McHugh escaped a pair of bases-loaded jams to pitch six scoreless innings, and Houston beat Seattle.

Altuve had a two-run homer and three singles in five at-bats to raise his American League-leading average to .346.

Blue Jays 5, Athletics 3

In Oakland, Josh Donaldson hit a tiebreaking two-run double with two outs in the ninth against his former team and Toronto avoided a three-game sweep.

Troy Tulowitzki homered while Russell Martin and Justin Smoak added two hits apiece for the Blue Jays.

Diamondbacks 6, Dodgers 5

In Phoenix, Robbie Ray pitched seven scoreless innings, Jake Lamb hit his 21st home run and Arizona held on to beat Los Angeles.

The Dodgers had runners at first and third with one out in the ninth when rookie Jake Barrett struck out Yasiel Puig and Chris Taylor to earn his second save.

Froome tames rivals in mountain stage at Tour de France

CULOZ, France (AP)—When his rivals tried to unsettle the Tour de France leader in the punishing Lacets du Grand Colombier, Chris Froome just kept calm and carried on.

On a tough day through the Jura mountains featuring hardly any flat stretches, attacks from Fabio Aru, Alejandro Valverde and Romain Bardet on the final climb of Sunday's 15th stage of the Tour left the British champion unfazed.

"I was in control," Froome summed up at the finish.

So much in control that the Team Sky leader even teased his opponents, suddenly jumping out of the group of favorites near the summit in a fake attack, before stopping

his move.

"I just wanted to get a feeling for how the group was, and who was reacting and who to look out for," Froome said. "What reaction I would get, who would be looming to follow me?"

Froome's short acceleration had no impact and the group crossed the finish line together, slightly more than three minutes behind stage winner Jarlinson Pantano.

But the cheeky move spoke volumes about his current supremacy at cycling's biggest event. Aside from his crash in the Mont Ventoux due to a motorbike incident last week,

Froome has been enjoying a quiet and effective fortnight.

Ahead of the final week of racing in the Alps, Froome kept his 1:47 lead over Dutch rider Bauke Mollema intact, with Adam Yates in third place overall, 2:45 back. Colombian climber Nairo Quintana lags 2:59 behind in fourth.

"When it looked Quintana was going to attack, he (Froome) threw a little dummy attack in and that just quietened everybody down," said Richie Porte, who sits in seventh overall, 4:27 back.

Although Froome's rivals tried their luck in the final ascent, none of them was able

to create a gap as Froome's lieutenants Woert Poels and Mikel Nieve did not panic, pulling their leader on the serpentine climb without losing any ground.

And when Quintana tried to accelerate after another attack from Bardet on the descent, once again the Sky riders shut down the move.

"Coming to the Tour, I said I was in a very privileged position because it was the strongest team that Team Sky ever sent to the Tour," Froome said. "With me, I have riders who would be leaders in other teams. It must be quite demoralizing for other riders."

Quintana and Mollema have four Alpine stages next week to make up for the lost ground.



Anti-doping leader: Russian probe has not been compromised

NEW YORK (AP)—Suggestions that the release of draft letters urging Russia's total ban from the Olympics have compromised the investigation into Russian doping are nonsense, an international anti-doping leader said Sunday.

The Institute of National Anti-Doping Agencies is one of a handful of anti-doping and athletes' groups to draft letters calling for the ban. They plan to send the letters to the International Olympic Committee only if the investigation, due out Monday, reveals evidence of state-sponsored doping throughout Russian sports.

A group of Olympic leaders, including IOC members and swimming's international federation, have released statements suggesting that the draft letters have undermined the credibility of investigator Richard McLaren's report.

"It is very disappointing to see prominent Olympic stakeholders attempting to get another family member banned from the Olympic Games in this rather underhand way," said Spyros Capralos, presi-



dent of Greece's Olympic committee.

But iNADO CEO Joseph de Pencier said his organization has neither communicated with McLaren nor tried to influence his work; he said

he had no knowledge of any iNADO members contacting McLaren, either.

The back-and-forth this weekend about the draft letters illustrates the stakes of McLaren's report and the

IOC's reaction to it.

Anti-doping leaders and groups of athletes are calling for a full Russian ban from the upcoming Olympics in Rio de Janeiro if McLaren's report substantiates and expands

In this Feb. 7, 2014 file photo Alexander Zubkov of Russia carries the national flag as he leads the team during the opening ceremony of the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. On Monday, July 18, 2016 a report on Russian doping by investigator Richard McLaren is to be released in Toronto.

on preliminary findings that already have been released. Meanwhile, IOC president Thomas Bach says a balance must be struck between "collective responsibility and individual justice."

Preliminary findings from the report, released in June as part of a probe into the Russian track team, which already has been suspended from the games, said there was "mandatory state-directed manipulation of laboratory analytical results operating within" the Moscow anti-doping lab from at least 2011 through the summer of 2013. Those findings also said Russia's "Ministry of Sport advised the laboratory which of its adverse findings it could report to WADA, and which it

had to cover up."

The planned Monday release of the report comes 18 days before the start of the Summer Olympics.

A statement sent Sunday by swimming's governing body, FINA, said the iNADO and other letters were "based on the findings of the McLaren Report, which is meant to have been independent and confidential. Such breaches of confidentiality and the perception of a breach of independence of the report undermine its credibility."

Zlatko Matesa, president of Croatia's Olympic Committee, said the "pre-mature" movement to ban Russia "is not in the Olympic spirit and casts a shadow over the integrity of the McLaren report."

But dePencier said iNADO had no more information than anyone else.

"Like iNADO, sport organizations and anti-doping organizations of all sorts have been planning for days for the possibility of the worse-case scenario, and having appropriate responses prepared, hoping they will not be needed," he said.



All eyes on Neymar at men's Olympic soccer tournament

SAO PAULO (AP)—The last time Brazil played a major soccer tournament at home, Neymar was stretchered off the field and then missed an embarrassing loss against Germany in the 2014 World Cup semifinals.

Two years later, the Barcelona star looks to rebound from that disappointment at the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

Although the Olympic soccer tournament doesn't have the same importance of a World Cup, the Rio Games have a special meaning for the Brazilian striker. Neymar will be one of the games' biggest stars and will carry the responsibility of leading the five-time world champions to their first soccer gold medal.

"It's a unique opportunity,"

he said. "Not only for me, but for everyone on the team. We know how important this medal is."

All eyes will be on the 24-year-old striker, who opted to play in the Olympics instead of the Copa America earlier this year. Brazil was eliminated in the group stage of that tournament, a result that prompted the firing of coach Dunga.

Because it's not an official FIFA tournament, teams are not required to release players for the Olympic tournament, but Neymar and the Brazilian soccer confederation negotiated with Barcelona so he could play in Rio.

"I know that this gold medal has eluded Brazil so far, and we will do everything to try to win it," Neymar told

Brazilian television recently. "It's rare that a country like Brazil, considered the land of football, still hasn't won this gold."

It will be the second time Neymar will play for Brazil at the Olympics. He led the team that lost the 2012 final to Mexico in London, where the Brazilians were the heavy favorites. Brazil was runner-up twice before, in 1984 and 1988. It also won the bronze in 1996 and 2008, the last time with a squad that featured Ronaldinho and future stars like Marcelo and Thiago Silva.

"Neymar is special, one of the best players in the world," said Rogerio Micalle, who replaced Dunga as coach of the Olympic team. "Any team can benefit from a player like him. He will mean a lot to us.

I think that he will be able to lead the youngsters in the squad."

Neymar will be one of the three over-23 players each nation is allowed to add to its roster. The other two are 38-year-old Palmeiras goalkeeper Fernando Prass and 28-year-old Beijing Guoan midfielder Renato Augusto, who have far less international experience than Neymar.

No other player will attract as much attention—from fans, media and opposing teams—as Neymar.

"I'm honored to be in this team, because I know how difficult it is to win an Olympic medal in any sport," he said. "With football it's even more difficult because if you are not the champion, people see it differently."

Dacumos is Friday darts tourney winner

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

After getting the boot in the Friday Night Dart Tournament two weeks ago, Burth Dacumos made sure he would win the whole thing as he defeated K.J. Villagomez in the finals last week held at the 6JMS Sports Bar in Garapan.

Dacumos went undefeated all the way to the final match against Villagomez, who dropped to the loser's bracket after being beaten by Jeff Barit.

Dacumos defeated Aldebert Lizama to kick off his title

bid and moved further to the finals with successive victories against Jayson John, Pam Ybanez, and Jose Orosco. He clinched the first finals berth after dispatching former champion Barit.

Villagomez, on the other hand, had to beat Jun Santos and Dan Mateo, respectively, to get another shot at Barit. The eventual runner-up then defeated Barit to earn the right of facing Dacumos in the finals.

Dacumos, however, won't be denied of the title as he claimed the bragging rights

and the \$110 top purse. Villagomez settled for \$70, while Baritwent home with \$30.

Rusty Santos, Rey Cepeda, Peter Togawa, Rowel Alfaro, Leo Wania, Roy Tereyama, aymund Naluz, Patrick Taitano, Raymond Naluz, Jesse Borja, Gilbert Gatmaitan, and Mike Dela Cruz were the other players that joined the one-night tournament.

Meanwhile, Saipan Electronic Darts Association is reminding all team captains to attend a meeting on July

22, Friday, at 8pm at the 6JMS Sports Bar beside Mobil Middle Road to discuss details of the the Bud Light Summer/Fall 2016 season which will open on Aug. 1.

The upcoming league has Jonny's Bar, Sands Bar, VFW Post 3457, 6JMS Sports Bar, Oleai Beach Bar & Grill, 9eleven Restobar, Wild Bill's Bar & Grill, Naked Fish, and The Warehouse as locations that are willing to sponsor teams.

For more information, call SEDA league secretary Warlee Ellama at 2334397 or 2855967.



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was the champion.

In the women's 16 to 29 age group, Reaven Jei Cruz led the finishers and was joined in the Top 3 by Zia Buniag and Thia Seman, while Joshua Andrew prevailed in the men's field after downing John Tudela and Daniel Kaipat.

In the 30 and over division, Merissa Rasa and Robin Sapong took the top honors. Merissa defeated Sandy Leon Guerrero, while Sapong edged Ponce Rasa and Ron Chisato.

This year's Mau Fatuul Classic was organized by Napu and SUP SPN. The orga-

nizers would like to thank the following for their support in the weekend event: Best Sunshine International, Carolinian Affairs Office, Mau Pailug's family, TSL Foundation, DCCA Arts and Council, Marianas Variety, Win Win Way, KKMP, IT&E, Windsurfing Saipan, IP&E Shell, Saipan Aloha Maid/Budweiser, Let's Go, Saipan Apparel, PDI, Reps. Ramon Tebuteb, Vince Sablan, Ralph Yumul, Felicidad Ogumoro, Roman Benavente, J.P. Sablan, Edmund Villagomez, and B.J. Attao, House Speaker Ralph Demapan, Senate vice president Arnold Palacios, PADFed, and Cultura Athletics.

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more than three months and I hope by the time they get to Palau, the team will play more cohesive basketball and be consistent on defense," Rangamar added.

Although, Palau has two squads in the MBT, Rangamar picked Guam as the team to beat in next week's tournament.

"We have no idea how the other participating teams play so it's up to the coaching staff to make the adjustments once they get there and hopefully our players will also respond to the challenges that other teams will be presenting to them," Rangamar said.

The 12 players who made the team were selected from a

pool of 20 aspirants. The final 12 play for various school and youth leagues on the island. Kintaro, the tallest player on the team at 6'3", played for the Sonics that won the U15 crown in the inaugural Diaz youth caging a few months ago. Castro and Rios are Kintaro's teammates, while majority of the members of the squad played for the Ol'Aces, who topped U18 division of the same caging and finished in the Top 4 in the U15.

"These are the players that we are trying to develop as they may be able to play for the men's team in the future," Rangamar said, adding that MIBF failed to form a women's squad due to the unavailability of female players on the island.

2016 Asia Pacific Regional Tournament

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



The CNMI Senior League All-Stars participate in the parade of teams during the opening of the 2016 Asia Pacific Regional Tournament last week at the Clark International Sports Complex in Pampanga, Philippines.



The CNMI Senior League All-Stars are pumped up before they head back to the field.



The CNMI Senior League All-Stars players and officials line up before the start of their game against Guam.



CNMI Senior League All-Stars manager Lawrence Camacho gestures after winning over the Philippines.



The CNMI Senior League All-Stars officials, led by manager Lawrence Camacho, standing left, talk to their players before their game against Australia.



The CNMI Senior League All-Stars players and officials pose with organizers and supporters of the World Series qualifier during the awards ceremony for the competition.



The CNMI Senior League All-Stars warm up before their game against Indonesia.



Four members of the CNMI Senior League All-Stars watch the action from the dugout.



The CNMI Senior League All-Stars listen to the instructions from their officials.

Stenson,
Mickelson forever
linked after epic
Open duel

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Saipan Tribune Sports



Jackson takes
no-no into 7th,
Padres sweep
Giants

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI Junior Nationals off to Palau

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Junior Nationals are leaving for Palau this weekend to compete in the 2016 U17 Micronesian Basketball Tournament.

The Commonwealth will be represented in the regional caging (western conference) by 12 players, three officials, and one referee. Suiting up for the squad are Jester Kintaro, Nnes Siech, Ron Atalig, Dean Blake, Jerald Castillo, Aifer-son Atan, Jeffrey Castro, Je-



thro Cruz, Gregory Sablan Jr., Troy Ngirarois, Roberto Paragados Jr., and Keoni Rios. Preston Basa is the team's head coach and will be assisted by Omar Ajoste, while Greg Iginoef is the Junior Nationals manager. Referee Arnold Mesa completes the CNMI delegation.

The MBT U17 will take place from July 25 to 30 at the Palau National Gymnasium in Koror with the CNMI Junior Nationals competing against two teams from the host island, Guam, and Yap.

Elias Rangamar, secretary general and development officer of Marianas Islands Basketball Federation, which led the formation of the Junior Nationals, said the team has a good mixed of big and small players who can run a fast-paced game.

"This is a very young team and the coaching staff is encouraging them go for motion offense and use their speed as often as possible," said Rangamar, who watched the team's scrimmage against players from the MIBF's island-wide and government leagues yesterday.

"They need as many scrimmages as they could get as the tournament nears. There's a lot of things they need to improve on despite training for



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The CNMI Junior Nationals' Jeff Castro pulls up for a shot during a scrimmage against a group players yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Mini Games deadline by numbers announced

Northern Marianas Sports Association reminded local sports federations of the deadline for submission of entries by numbers in the 2017 Pacific Mini Games.

NMSA president Michael White, during the group's meeting early this month, said interested NMSA-member federations must turn in their entries by numbers either by end of November this year or first week of December.

Twelve sports are lined up for next year's Mini Games, which Vanuatu will be hosting from Dec. 2 to 14. The list includes athletics, golf, beach volleyball, football (soccer), tennis, weightlifting, rugby, archery boxing, cricket, judo, karate, and netball. Early this year, only athletics and golf have expressed interest in sending athletes to the quadrennial meet, but in NMSA's July meeting, the two groups and other federations have yet to decide whether to compete or not in the 10th edition of the event.

White reminded federations that once they confirmed to send athletes/teams to Vanuatu, they must honor their commitment as groups that will back out the last minute will be fined.

Meanwhile, the NMSA head also informed sports officials about two more competitions where the CNMI is invited to join.

The first one is the 2017 World University Games that will be held in Taipei from Aug. 19 to 30.

Twenty-two sports are scheduled in the Fédération Internationale du Sport Universitaire-sanctioned competition, which is open for student-athletes in the 17 to 28 age group. Participants must be enrolled in a college or university or at least have taken one 3-credit course towards a degree or diploma within the last year before the Games. Incoming freshman may also be eligible.

White said in the past, the CNMI are allowed to send two athletes and a coach to the World University Games and airfare and accommodations are shouldered by the organizers.

Besides the FISU event, the Commonwealth is also invited to the 2017 Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games that will be held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan from Sept. 15 to 24. There are 21 sports lined up in the Asian Indoor, including chess, futsal, tennis, Muay Thai, sambo, kurash, jiu itsu, bowling, cycling (track), swimming, indoor athletics, weightlifting (powerlifting), basketball, taekwondo, dance sport, kickboxing, belt wrestling, wrestling (FS/Greco Roman), and billiards and snooker. (Roselyn B. Monroyo)



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Balance field in long distance races



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Napu's junior men's team head to the shore after completing a race in the 16th Mau Fatuul Classic held over the weekend.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Saipan Paddling Club members push the pace as they near the finish line during last weekend's 16th Mau Fatuul Classic.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The long-course competition in the 16th Mau Fatuul Classic turned out to be a balance one as no team dominated last Sunday's races.

In the adults division, there was a split with Marianas Outrigger Club and Saipan Paddling Club topping the men's and women's categories, respectively. MOC completed the race from the

Chamolinian Utt to Managaha and back in 1:14:11 to beat SPC's 1:20:50. In the women's division, SPC came in first after clocking in at 1:33:14 against the 1:36:54 of Marianas Pacific Paddlers.

In the juniors division, there were also different first place winners. Napu Outrigger Club and Saipan Paddling Club won the junior men after finishing the race from Chamolinian Utt to Quartermaster Road and back in 35:39, nearly two minutes ahead of SPC, which crossed the finish line at the 37:28 mark. Earlier in junior women's category, SPC timed in at 41:33 for a more than seven-minute lead against Napu, which submitted 48:40.

Meanwhile, a standup paddling competition took place after the outrigger canoe races.

In the 6 to 9 age group, Iris Rasa and Tyler Andrew were the top finishers, while Iris older sister Kaya won the girls 10 to 15 division, beating Rachel Tudela. In the boys 10 to 15, Vincent Tudela



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